

ERIE  
#135



WARREN  
MAGAZINE

OCT. 1982

# EERIE

\$2.50

WPS 37926

**WIZARDS!  
WARRIORS!  
MADNESS!  
MAYHEM!  
SUPER-  
SPECIAL  
100-PAGE  
SUMMER  
GIANT!**

**COLLECTOR'S  
EDITION!  
FEATURING THE  
SPECTACULAR  
ART OF  
STEVE  
DITKO!**

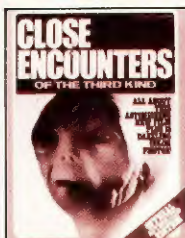


SANJULIAN © 79

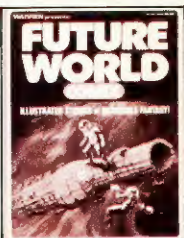




# WARREN SPECIAL ISSUE MAGAZINES



**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS** The magazine of the movie (filled with facts, photos (color & B&W), features and effects! 8 1/2"x11" 72 pages! CE—\$2.50



**FUTURE WORLD COMIX** A fabulous 8 1/2"x11", 72 page comic book featuring 8 spectacular tales by Corben, Torrents, Maroto and others! FW—\$2.50



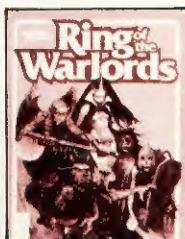
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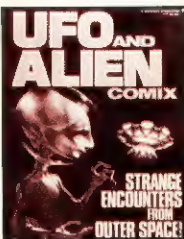
**LORD OF THE RINGS** Our exclusive magazine version of the movie masterpiece! A spectacular 49 pages, all in full color! 8 1/2"x11" LOR—\$3.00



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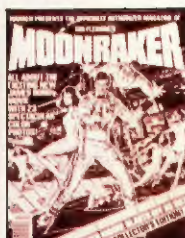
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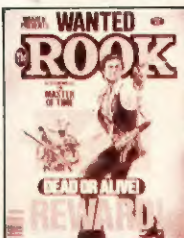
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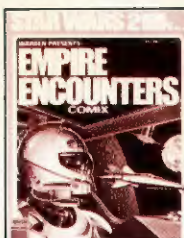
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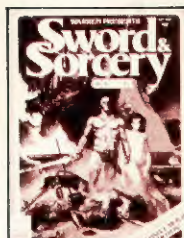
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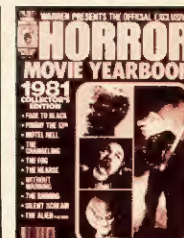
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**SWORD & SORCERY COMIX** Sorcerers, demons, dragons, and skull-bashing barbarians in blood and guts action and enchantment! SS—\$2.50



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**JAMES WARREN**

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Editor

**DAVID ALLIKAS**

Assistant Editor

**W.R. MOHALLEY**

Art Director

**ROY R. ARMILLOS**

**RICHARD HECHT**

Art Production

**LORI FANCHER**

Advertising Production

**MIKE SCHNEIDER**

Circulation Director

Cover

**SANJULIAN**

Writer

**ARCHIE GOODWIN**

Artist

**STEVE DITKO**

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# EERIE



## SPIRIT OF THING 5

The heavily bundled figure reached the attic room, and began an unrelieved pounding and beating on the door!



## COLLECTOR'S ED. 13

Here was a man who looked beyond the grave, and the darkest unknown corners of the mind, into hell itself!



## BEAST MAN 22

When it was already too late, she looked to the branches above...and saw the unearthly creature dropping onto her!



## THE WEREWOLF 31

For a long time I floated in limbo, daintily conscious of the nightmarish figure in black standing over me!



## SECOND CHANCE 38

Deeper and deeper he plunged into the dark domain, pleading for it to end...until, to his sudden regret, it did!



## SORCERY LIVES 45

Garth paused in his assault as the wind brought a terrible sound...the leathery beat of unearthly wings!



## CITY OF DOOM 53

Drooling and grunting with a fervor more of animals than men, the wild-eyed horde advanced menacingly!



## SHRIEKING MAN 61

Colbert's knees buckled as the screaming horror from the shadows slashed and clawed at his body!



## THE FLY 69

The killer had it all figured out! After plastic surgery, no one could possibly hope to identify him as the murderer!



## DEMON SWORD 76

Not even Brace, until it was too late, guessed the path of horror the ancient sword would cut through the present!



# EERIE'S EXCITING EARFUL

Has **Cousin Eerie** got an earful for this month! A super new series begins in **EERIE**, and an acclaimed **old** one returns to 1994! New **Corben** covers are coming! **Alex Nino** admits that he's been out in the sun too long! And so much more new information that **Cousin** will bury you in it!



## WARHAWKS BACK IN 1994!

Around here, good characters never disappear! It may take us three years or more to revive them...but they never disappear! Remember the **Warhawks** from 1984 #6? (Yes...from so long ago that the magazine had a different title!) With the birth of our new **GOBLIN** magazine, **Bill DuBay** decided to give his controversial creations a series of their own! But when **Abel Laxamana's** pencils came in, **Dube** decided that **Warner Hawk** and his band of violence-crazed vigilantes would be more at home right back where they started—in the pages of our adult science fantasy magazine. All you over-18 readers can see for yourselves what we mean in the October issue of 1994 (#27)!



## SO? NO ONE'S PERFECT!

For about the hundredth time this month, we prove it...we're human! In several editions of last month's fan page, we reported that **EERIE #135** would contain the **Starlad** color comic book insert...and that **EERIE #136** would be an all-**Steve Ditko** issue! Well, reverse that! (Not that it wasn't true at the time we printed it, but plans have changed.) So, if you couldn't wait to read the ten best tales **Steve** has ever drawn for us, bound between the covers of a single magazine, now you get to see it a little sooner! If you were busting to see **Bill DuBay** and **Vic Catan's** work on **Warren's** first pre-teen super-hero, now you get to eagerly anticipate it a little longer! See? Even when we blow it, we spread sunshine and happiness throughout the universe!



## GLYTHIS DEBUTS IN EERIE!

We're announcing so many new series these days, it seems like we'll soon run out of magazines to put them in! But we had to make room for our newest feature...**Glythis**! For one thing, **Timothy Mortuary's** storyline about a terrible accident that unites and confuses the lives of an earthman and an alien was among the most compelling we've seen this year! For another, we had to get ex-**Zod** **Kamish** illustrator **E.R. Cruz** busy before the competition grabbed him! Between **The Rook**, the continuing sagas of **Hagarth** and **Spacewrecked**, and the all-new **Starlad** and **Glythis**, life just won't be worth living without **EERIE #136** (on sale August 17)!



## SUN STROKES OF GENIUS!

In the past year's run of 1994, **Alex Nino** has boggled readers' brains with a 14-page spread, a 10-page story that combines into an eight-sided picture, and a spread in the August 1994 (#26) that extends infinitely in two directions (believe us—that's as close as we can come to describing it!). So the last time **Alex** phoned us from the Philippines, we had to ask him—where do you get the inspiration for these flights of frenzy? His answer was: "Sometimes, when I'm sitting out in the sun for a long time...I go mad!" Well, chances are that **Alex's** method won't work for everyone...but just in case, we're building all our artists drawing boards on the beach!



## WE'VE GOT 'EM COVERED!

You can debate about who produces the best comics in the industry. (You can come to only one sensible conclusion...but we'll admit there's room for debate!) However, when a **Warrentite** starts talking covers, fans of other comics companies slink into the shadows! Back-to-back **Richard Corben's** (on **CREEPY** #s 140 and 141) blew the competition off the newsstands! **Rudy Nebres'** comic book-look covers have placed **THE GOBLIN** and our portfolio issues of **CREEPY** and **EERIE** among the hottest sellers in collector's shops around the country! (Wasn't it Socrates who said: "Life holds no greater joy than invading the other dude's turf"?) More is on the way from **Rich** and **Rudy**, as well as from such brush-wielding wonders as **Enrich** and **Sanjulan**. So, judge our books by their covers, or by their insides...**Warren's** comics will stack up against anyone's! (Especially since **ours** are at least twice as thick!)



## FM COLOR AND YEARBOOK!

Have you caught the new color section in **FAMOUS MONSTERS**? The first one, in **FM #186**, spotlighted "Tron" and "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan"! The second, in the current issue (#187), features "Creepshow" and "The Thing"! We're thinking of asking the studios for a cut...because when you see how gore-gore those color sections are, you'll rush right out and see the movies! (On second thought...they may scare you into staying away!) In either case, the **FM** color section is not to be missed...and neither is our 1982 **Yearbook** (#188, on sale August 17)! Details will follow...as soon as we know them!

# COMING WARREN MAGAZINES

**GOBLIN #2:** They're back—the hilarious horde of heroes that made issue #1 an instant sellout! **The Goblin! Wizard Wormglow! The Micro-Bucaneers! The Troll Patrol** in a color comic insert! And introducing **The Hobgoblin!** More yuks for your bucks!

ON SALE JULY 13!

**VAMPI #108:** "Spawn of the Star Beast" by **Gonzalez!** Plus...**Pantha** and **Arrowsmith** at the "Circus Monstrous"! **The Fox** in "The Beast Lies Sleeping!" **Sweetwater Nettle** in captivity! **Jeremy** in a heap of trouble! & **Alex Toth's Torpedo!**

ON SALE JULY 13!

**CREEPY #141:** Flash-freeze your marrow with six new shockers! "I Created the Gargoyle"; "The Puppet Master of Marple St."; "The Check-out Counter" (make sure you don't check out!); part I of **Don McGregor's** "Moral Blood"; and more!

ON SALE JULY 13!

**FAMOUS MONSTERS #187:** The latest celluloid chills! Including color sections on "The Thing" and "Creepshow," plus photo-filled features on "Star Trek," "Dark Shadows," **John Carradine**, all our regular departments, & other sickening surprises!

ON SALE JULY 20!

**1994 #27:** Soaring, searing adult fantasy! **The Warhawks** by **Bill DuBay** and **Abel Laxamana!** **Ariel Hart** by **DuBay** and **Peter Hsu!** "Big Dollhouse of Space" by **J. Sech** and **Delando Nino!** **Angel** by **DuBay** & **Nebres!** **Maroto's Diana Jackdriker!**

ON SALE AUGUST 3!



**D**RAG YOUR **BEASTLY BODIES** ONTO THE NEAREST SLAB AND STRETCH OUT... I'M SET TO GO WITH SOME **GEAR FEAR**, SO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE SET BY THE HERO OF THIS TALE, AND JUST GET INTO....

# The SPIRIT OF THE THING!

**D**URING ONE OF THE HOTTEST NIGHTS OF LAST SUMMER, A STRANGE FIGURE WAS OBSERVED MAKING HIS WAY DOWN MANHATTAN'S WEST 17TH STREET... STAGGERING UNSTEADILY, AND AT LENGTH CLIMBING WITH GREAT AWKWARDNESS UP THE STEPS OF A ROOMING HOUSE ON THE BLOCK...

**T**HE STRANGER'S ASCENT UP THE OLD BUILDING'S STAIRS WAS CLUMSY AND NOISY. IT WAS A DRY SEASON, BUT WITNESSES LATER RECALLED TRAILINGS OF MUD AND DAMP EARTH WERE LEFT BEHIND ON THE STEPS...

WATTA YA, DRUNK? WATCH THE RACKET!

**W**ITH GREAT DIFFICULTY, THE HEAVILY BUNDLED FIGURE AT LAST REACHED THE ATTIC ROOM, RENTED BY A UNIVERSITY STUDENT, MICHAEL ROGERS... HE AT ONCE COMMENCED AN UNRELIEVED POUNDING AND BEATING ON THE DOOR!

STOP THIS MINUTE, OR I'M CALLING THE SUPER!!

THE SOUND OF SPLINTERING WOOD BROUGHT MOST OF THE HOUSE TO THE STAIRS, ONLY TO BE FOLLOWED BY A HUMAN SOUND FAR MORE DREADFUL!



NOISE OF A VIOLENT STRUGGLE RENT THE NIGHT...



...AND ON THE STREET, OBSERVERS SAW THE ATTIC ROOM PLUNGED INTO PITCH DARKNESS...



...THEN THERE WAS A FEARFUL SILENCE.

WHEN NO FURTHER SOUND ENSUED, THE BUILDING'S SUPER-INTENDENT INCHED OPEN THE ROOM'S BROKEN DOOR, HIS TREMBLING HAND FUMBLING FOR THE LIGHT SWITCH...



THE LIGHTS... DON'T... TURN THEM ON...! FOR GOD'S SAKE...

TO WHAT WAS OBVIOUSLY LITTLE AVAIL, THE STUDENT WAS MADE COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE...

SOMEONE GET A DOCTOR! THIS MAN'S DYING!

DON'T BOTHER... S'ALL RIGHT... DOESN'T MATTER... NOW...



WHO DID IT, ROGERS? WHERE'D HE GO? HOW'D A THING LIKE THIS HAPPEN?

HOW?...



STARTED WITH... PROFESSOR JEROME... AT SCHOOL...



"THE PROFESSOR WAS DOING A PAPER ON HYPNOTISM. HE'D ASKED FOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST AS SUBJECTS..."

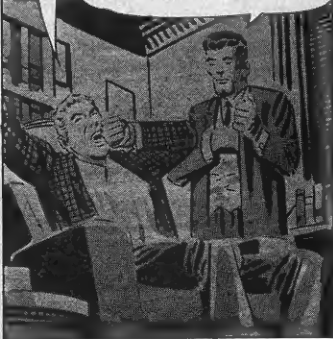


...NOW WHEN I SNAP MY FINGERS, YOU'LL WAKE UP, MICHAEL... READY... NOW!



GO OKAY THIS TIME, PROFESSOR?

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE RESPOND TO HYPNOSIS AS YOU HAVE! YOU'RE THE PERFECT SUBJECT... THAT'S WHY I'M USING YOU FOR MY MOST IMPORTANT EXPERIMENT!



I'VE WAITED YEARS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY! NOW, WITH YOU, IT CAN BE DONE! LONG-RANGE THOUGHT TRANSFER THROUGH HYPNOTIC TRANCE! YOUR MIND... YOUR SPIRIT... WILL ANSWER MY CALL!



I-ISN'T IT RISKY THIS SOON?

TIME IS SHORT! THE CHANCE MAY NEVER COME AGAIN... I'VE ALREADY GIVEN YOU A POST-HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION... IT MUST BE... TONIGHT!



"SUDDENLY, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE AIDING THE PROFESSOR IN HIS STUDIES, I FELT AFRAID... YET, IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE... THE SUGGESTION HAD BEEN PLANTED IN MY MIND..."



"...AND AT MIDNIGHT, IT TOOK EFFECT... I FELT MYSELF SLIPPING INTO A TRANCE... SPINNING DEEPER AND DEEPER..."

BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG!  
BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG!





"NEVER HAD I FELT SO STRONGLY DRAWN INTO A TRANCE! THEN, I SUDDENLY FELT... **FREE!** ABLE TO FLOAT... DRIFT... LOOK DOWN UPON MYSELF AND MY ROOM..."



IT'S WORKING! MORE THAN JUST THOUGHT TRANSFER... MY WHOLE SPIRIT'S CUT LOOSE FROM MY BODY!



"THE SIGHT SWIRLED AND VANISHED... NOW I WAS MOVING... SEARCHING... FOLLOWING A COMMAND..."



PROFESSOR JEROME! GOT TO MOVE TOWARD HIS VOICE...

"I WAS MOVING THROUGH A STRANGE HALF-WORLD... A WORLD OF MIST AND SHADOW... TERRIBLE SHADOWS WITH MELTING FACES OF CLOAKED HORROR... NEBULOUS MONSTROSITIES FLOATING... DRIFTING... WATCHING..."



"FINALLY, MY DESTINATION WAS IN SIGHT... I HAD REACHED MY GOAL... EVEN THOUGH THE COMMAND WAS NO LONGER BEING GIVEN..."

PROFESSOR!  
PROFESSOR!



"...FOR THE MOST LOGICAL OF REASONS!"

DEAD! HEART ATTACK!  
THE STRAIN MUST HAVE BEEN TOO GREAT FOR HIM...





"ALL CONSUMING DREAD SENT ME RACING BACK THROUGH THE MISTS AND TERRIBLE SHADOWS... BACK TO THAT SOLID WORLD I'D BEEN PULLED OUT OF... BACK TO THE COMFORT OF MY OWN -- "



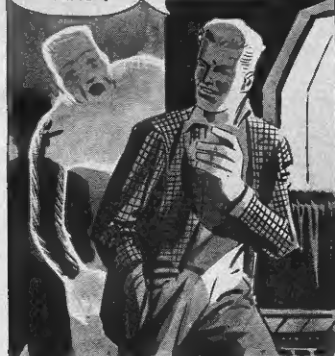
"BUT THERE WAS NO COMFORT... ONLY HORROR! THE GREATEST HORROR OF ALL!"



GONE! MY BODY IS GONE!!

"I FLED, STRICKEN WITH PANIC...YET INSTINCTIVELY I WAS DRAWN TO THE ANSWER..."

HELLO, MICHAEL... DON'T BE SO SURPRISED! I CAN SENSE YOUR PRESENCE... I'M ATTUNED TO THAT SORT OF THING!

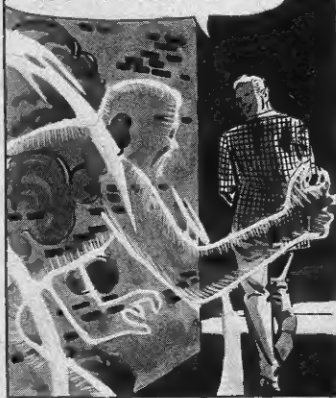


"THE VOICE WAS MINE... THE BODY WAS MINE... BUT THE SPIRIT MOVING AND MOTIVATING IT BELONGED TO... **PROFESSOR JEROME!**"

I **KNEW** I WAS GOING TO DIE... YOU CAN'T BLAME ME FOR GRABBING AT A HEALTHY YOUNG BODY! TOO BAD YOU LET YOUR SPIRIT OUT OF IT... BUT THEN I **PLANNED** IT THAT WAY, DIDN'T I? **HAAAAHAHAHAHAHA!**



RATHER LIKE LOSING AT MUSICAL CHAIRS, EH, MICHAEL? WON'T BE SEEING MUCH MORE OF YOU... LIVING SPIRITS WITHOUT BODIES TEND TO BECOME LIKE THOSE SHADOW CREATURES...



"I WATCHED HELPLESSLY AS JEROME STROLLED AWAY WITH MY BODY... MY LIFE THAT HE HAD STOLEN..."



JEROME...



JEROME! PLEASE!



"I WAS TRAPPED! DOOMED TO WANDER FOR ETERNITY IN THAT HORRIBLE HALF-WORLD UNTIL I DISSOLVED INTO PART OF IT... TRAPPED... DOOMED... WITHOUT A BODY..."



"HOW LONG I FLOATED IN THAT LIMBO OF SHADOWS AND MIST, I CAN'T BE SURE, BUT FINALLY IT CAME TO ME..."

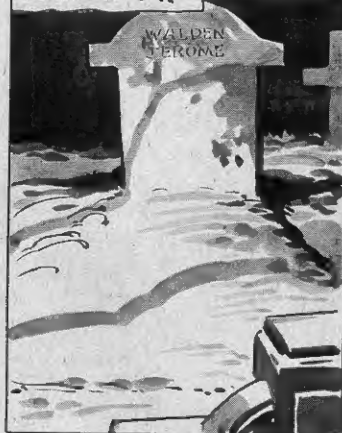
A BODY! THERE IS A SPIRITLESS BODY I CAN USE!



"MORE TIME PASSED AS I SEARCHED... BUT I HAD PURPOSE... DETERMINATION... AND, EVENTUALLY..."



"...I FOUND WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR!"



"THE REST WAS NOT EASY, BUT I NOW HAD A BODY, AND SLOWLY, BUT SURELY, THE AWFUL DECAYING THING BEGAN TO WORK FOR ME!"

HARDER...



HARDER!...



NOW!



"TOO MUCH TIME HAD GONE BY! THE THING THAT HAD ONCE BEEN PROFESSOR JEROME'S BODY MOVED AWKWARDLY AND WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY... HARDLY ENOUGH MUSCLE LEFT TO OBEY MY SPIRIT URGING IT FORWARD..."



"EVEN AS I MOVED IT, THE THING WAS COLLAPSING UNDER ME... MINUTE PARTICLES SLOWLY DROPPING AWAY... YET I HAD TO KEEP GOING... ON TO MANHATTAN..."



"...AND PROFESSOR JEROME!"



"I HURTLIED THE LOATHSOME THING FORWARD, GROPING WITH BONY FINGERS FOR THE LIVING FLESH THAT WAS MY OWN... CLAWING AND STRIKING..."



"LITTLE BY LITTLE, MY DECAYING INSTRUMENT OF REVENGE WAS CRUMBLING INTO NOTHING... STILL I POUNDED... HIT... SMASHED... GOUGED..."



"AT LAST, IT HAD ITS EFFECT! JEROME WOULD NOT LET HIS SPIRIT BE TRAPPED IN THE BATTERED DYING SHELL... HE ABANDONED THE BODY... MY BODY..."





T-THAT STORY...IT  
COULDN'T BE TRUE...  
COULD IT?



SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS FAILED TO DETERMINE WHICH PERSON ACTUALLY TURNED ON THE LIGHT...

OH, MY GOD!



...BUT ALL PRESENT LATER AGREED IT HAD BEEN THE MOST HIDEOUS MISTAKE IN WHAT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE AN EVENING OF HORRORS!



B-BUT... IF THAT *T-THING* IS ALL THAT'S LEFT OF JEROME'S BODY...

...T-THEN  
HIS SPIRIT...

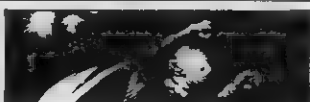


SPECULATION CONCERNING THE SPIRIT OF PROFESSOR WALDEN JEROME ENDED ABRUPTLY WHEN HIS OWN WORDS TO THE DISEMBODIED MICHAEL ROGERS WERE RECALLED: "LIVING SPIRITS WITHOUT BODIES TEND TO BECOME LIKE THOSE SHADOW CREATURES..."



**IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!**

**MIGHTY GLYTHIS! IN COLOR! STARLAD!**



# COLLECTOR'S EDITION!

LET ME MAKE IT CLEAR, MURCH WAS NEVER MY FRIEND... I HATED HIM! HATED HIM AND HIS SEEDY BOOKSHOP WITH ITS MUSTY SMELL OF YELLOWING PAGES AND FADING TYPE, DUSTY UNTOUCHED VOLUMES SLOWLY ROTTING ON COB-WEBBED SHELVES... YET, AS IS SO OFTEN TRUE IN LIFE, TO GAIN THE THINGS WE WANT IT IS NECESSARY TO DEAL WITH UNPLEASANT PEOPLE... AND THERE WERE THINGS I WANTED VERY BADLY!



EVENING, MR. DANFORTH! NEARLY CLOSING TIME... ANYTHING I CAN HELP YOU WITH?



HAVE YOU EVER COLLECTED ANYTHING? TRULY, DEVOTEDLY COLLECTED? THEN YOU KNOW HOW OBSSIVE AND DEMANDING IT CAN BE... AND HOW YOU CAN BE AT THE MERCY OF SOMEONE LIKE MURCH...

JUST LOOKING, THOUGHT I'D SEE IF ANYTHING NEW HAD COME IN...

YOU'RE A MAN OF STRANGE TASTES, MR. DANFORTH... THINGS YOU WANT ARE HARD TO COME BY!

HE WAS DISGUSTING AND OVERBEARING, BUT SOMEHOW, HE COULD GET THINGS... THE RARE, OBSCURE, EVER FORBIDDEN, WOULD ALWAYS FIND THEIR WAY INTO HIS HANDS... SO, I ENDURED...

YET I'VE FOUND 'EM FOR YOU, HAVEN'T I? SOONER OR LATER, OL' MURCH GETS 'EM... THE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF GILLES DE RAIS... THE SAWNEY BEANE TRIAL NOTES... THE LANDRU DIARY...



... OR MAYBE EVEN THAT ONE EVERY FANCIER OF THE OCCULT DREAMS OF... MAYBE EVEN THE FIRST EDITION OF THE MARQUIS LEMODE'S "DARK VISIONS"!

WHERE IS IT, MURCH?! HAVE YOU BEEN HOLDING OUT ON ME...? TANTALIZING... TORMENTING...

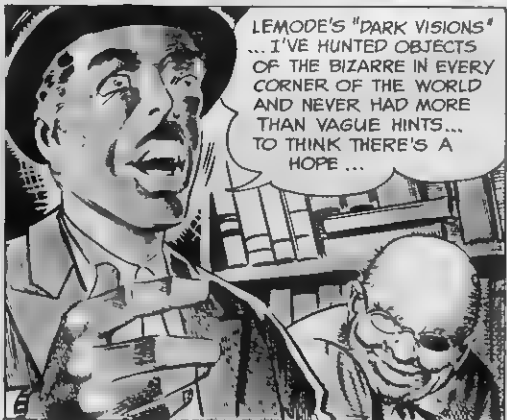
GENTLY, GENTLY, MR. DANFORTH...



I WANTED TO CRUSH THAT FAT SWINE! SMASH THE DECAYING TEETH IN HIS FOUL-BREATHED MOUTH... INSTEAD, I LISTENED... LISTENED TO HIS WHINING, TEASING VOICE....

DIDN'T SAY

I HAD IT, MR. DANFORTH... BUT I'VE A LEAD... A CHANCE...



LEMODE'S "DARK VISIONS" ... I'VE HUNTED OBJECTS OF THE BIZARRE IN EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD AND NEVER HAD MORE THAN VAGUE HINTS... TO THINK THERE'S A HOPE ...





"THE MARQUIS HAD CAST A LONG DARK SHADOW OVER THE 18TH CENTURY... BRILLIANT PHILOSOPHER, INSPIRED POET, **UNEXCELLED** ARTIST! HE BECAME THE HUB OF THE FAST-SPINNING WHEEL OF AVANTGARDE SOCIETY..."



"HIS ABILITIES SPANG FROM SINISTER ORIGINS AND HIS ENTIRE LIFE WAS DEVOTED TO A PURSUIT OF THE MOST UNSPEAKABLE EVILS... A KNOWN PARTICIPATER IN RITES OF DEVIL-WORSHIP THERE WERE EVEN RUMORS OF **HUMAN SACRIFICE**..."



"THEN, AT AGE 29, ALL HIS PROFUSE TALENTS AND CORRUPT DRIVES JELLED INTO ONE MASTERPIECE... LEMODE SECLUDED HIMSELF FOR ONE LONG TERRIBLE MONTH, REACHING INTO MADNESS AND BEYOND, AND PRODUCED HIS SUPERB BLEND OF PHANTASMAGORIAL DRAWING AND MACABRE POETRY, THE ULTIMATE OCCULT WORK, HIS UNPARALLELED **DARK VISIONS**..."



"LIMITED EDITIONS WERE PRIVATELY PRINTED, CIRCULATED TO THE JADED AND DECADENT, AND INEVITABLY, TO AN OUTRAGED PUBLIC... AN INQUISITION RESULTED, AND ALL THE MARQUIS MONSTROUS ACTIVITIES BECAME KNOWN!"



"HIS ROYAL RANK COULD NOT SAVE HIM, ALTHOUGH BURNING AT THE STAKE WAS RULED OUT IN FAVOR OF THE GUILLOTINE. HE WENT TO HIS DEATH UNREPENTANT... ALL COPIES OF THE BOOK WERE CONFISCATED AND DESTROYED..."



WE KNOW DIFFERENT, DON'T WE, MR. DANFORTH? A FEW COPIES HAVE SURVIVED... SMUGGLED THROUGH THE YEARS... AND I THINK I CAN GET ONE! IT WON'T BE CHEAP... NOT CHEAP AT ALL!



NOW YOU KNOW WHY I HATED MURCH... ALWAYS GOADING, PRODDING, HINTING, TANTALIZING... AND I HAD TO RESPOND! DART LIKE AN ANIMAL FOR A CARROT ON A STRING... IT WAS MURCH'S GAME AND IT DELIGHTED HIM!

ANY PRICE, MURCH! I MUST HAVE IT... ANY AMOUNT!

PATIENCE, PATIENCE... WE'VE NO DEAL YET! I'VE GOT TO SEE RAMSEY, THE IMPORTER, TONIGHT... HE'S PROVIDED ME WITH MOST OF THE REALLY GOOD ITEMS IN THE PAST... PERHAPS...



BUT IN HIS PETTY TYRANNY, MURCH WAS A FOOL! SEVERAL TIMES IN HIS DESIRE TO TORMENT, TO MAKE ME WAIT LONGER, PLEAD AND PAY MORE, HE'D MENTIONED RAMSEY... BRAGGED OF HIS SOURCE... A MISTAKE I COULD NOW MAKE HIM REGRET!

CALL ME AS SOON AS YOU'VE HEARD ANYTHING, ANYTHING AT ALL!

IN GOOD TIME, MR. DANFORTH... JUST BE PATIENT!



CASH WAS NEEDED... LOTS OF IT, "DARK VISIONS" WAS NOT AN ITEM FOR CHECKS AND RECORDS! I HAD TO ACT QUICKLY TO BEAT MURCH, BUT READY FUNDS WERE NO PROBLEM. THEY NEVER HAD BEEN SINCE MY MARRIAGE...

COLIN! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? BUYING MORE BOOKS, OCCULT JUNK?! YOU'RE NEVER HOME... NEVER CALL... NEVER SPEND ANY TIME WITH YOUR OWN WIFE... JUST MY MONEY!

NOT NOW, AUDREY, I'M IN A HURRY...



YOU CAN'T GO ON NEGLECTING ME! I'M A HUMAN BEING WITH PRIDE AND FEELINGS...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THAT'S ON HAND FOR EMERGENCIES... ANSWER ME!!



I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS TREATMENT ANY LONGER, COLIN! DO YOU HEAR ME?! I'M NOT--



RAMSEY WAS A WEALTHY, SUCCESSFUL MAN. HE LIVED IN A TOWNHOUSE ON A QUIET RESIDENTIAL BLOCK... BUT EVEN THE QUIET OF THE VERY RICH CAN SOME- TIMES BE DISTURBED...

WHAT'S HAPPENING?  
WHAT'S GOING ON?

**MURDER!** SOMEBODY  
TOOK A SILVER CANDLE-  
STICK TO THIS GUY RAMSEY'S  
SKULL... GOT AWAY CLEAN!



THERE WAS  
NO NEED FOR  
FURTHER QUES-  
TIONS. I TURNED  
AND HAILED A  
CAB. THERE WAS  
ONLY ONE PLACE  
LEFT TO GO...

HE'S IN THERE... GLOATING...  
REVELING... WAITING FOR ME!



DON'T WANT TO SEE  
ANYONE! GO AWAY,  
DANFORTH!

**YOU FAT PIG!** ENOUGH  
OF YOUR GAMES... I  
KNOW YOU'VE GOT IT! I  
KNOW WHAT YOU PAID  
FOR IT!!



WAS IT A **THIEF?**  
ANYTHING TAKEN?

DOUBT IT... ONLY ROOM  
DISTURBED IN THE WHOLE  
PLACE WAS THE LIBRARY...  
WHO'D WANNA STEAL A  
**BOOK?**



EXCITEMENT AND ANTICIPATION WERE WELLING UP  
WITHIN ME... I ASSAILED THE DOOR, POUNDING  
AND SHOUTING... MURCH WAS SLOW, SLOWER THAN  
EVER! MAINTAINING THE TORMENT...

**GO AWAY!**  
I'VE NOTHING  
FOR YOU ..



**NO!** THERE'S  
NOTHING!... STAY  
OUT! LEAVE ME  
ALONE!





**THEN I SAW IT!** NO ONE HAD EVER DESCRIBED WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE, NOT EVEN A SLIGHT HINT OR DESCRIPTION, YET I WOULD HAVE KNOWN IT ANYWHERE!

LEAVE YOU ALONE, MURCH? BEFORE WE'VE EVEN TALKED ABOUT... **THIS?**



MURCH BROKE AWAY FROM ME... MOVING HIS OBESE HULK OF A BODY FASTER THAN HE EVER HAD...

THERE'S NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT! IT'S MINE NOW! I DON'T WANT TO SELL IT, PART WITH IT! I'M KEEPING THE BOOK... **KEEPING IT!**



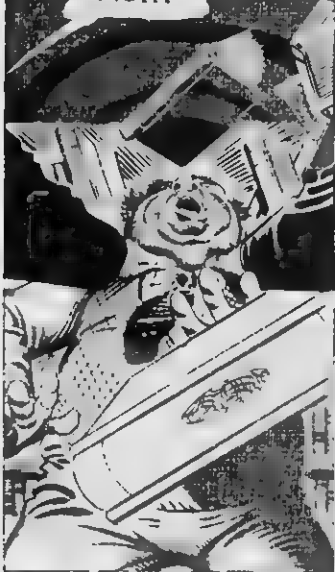
BLOOD COURSED THROUGH MY VEINS IN HEAVY POUNDING STROKES ... WHY WAS HE SUCH A FOOL? WHY COULDN'T HE TELL THE TIME FOR GAMES, PLAYING AND TOYING, WAS OVER?

MURCH... ALL THIS IS YOURS! GIVE ME THE BOOK... RIGHT NOW!

IT'S NOT FOR SALE! I'M **KEEPING THE BOOK!**



**SWINE!! @#%\*^&!!**  
**PIG!!!**

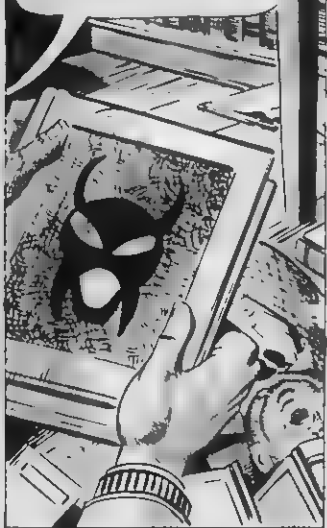


HOW I HATED HIM! HOW I HATED HIS QUIVERING CORPULENT BODY BENEATH ME... HATED THE UNSHAVEN FOLDS OF FLESH THAT WERE HIS NECK... HATED THE SPITTLE-FLECKED JOWLS OF HIS DISGUSTING FACE TURNING NOW WHITE, NOW RED, NOW PURPLE...



... AND THEN, THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT TO HATE.

MINE! AFTER ALL THESE YEARS... FINALLY **MINE!**



THERE WAS NO TIME FOR ADMIRATION OR APPRECIATION... LEMODE'S MASTERWORK NEEDED CAREFUL STUDY, FULL ATTENTION, AS BEFITTED THE PRODUCTS OF GENIUS, NO MATTER HOW WARPED...

I CAN'T **STAND** ANYMORE OF THIS! COLIN, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE MONEY? **COLIN! THE MONEY!**



THE MONEY, INDEED... IN MY HASTE TO LEAVE, I'D LEFT IT SCATTERED AROUND MURCH'S BLOATED CORPSE. CARELESS, BUT UNIMPORTANT... WITH "DARK VISIONS" UNDER MY ARM, WHAT COULD BE IMPORTANT?

**A BOOK?! EVERYTHING MY FATHER LEFT ME SQUANDERED ON JUNK! NO MORE! DO YOU HEAR ME, COLIN? NO MORE! NO MOR---**

I'M GOING INTO THE STUDY, SEE THAT I'M NOT DISTURBED!



NOW, I AM ALONE AND THE BOOK BEFORE ME... HERE, IN THE STUDY, SURROUNDED BY THE BOOKS AND OBJECTS I HAVE COLLECTED OVER THE YEARS, THE MARQUIS'S FORBIDDEN VOLUME HAS AT LAST THE SETTING IT NEEDS! WITH TREMBLING FINGERS, I TURN THE PAGES...

THE PRINTING... DESIGN... MASTERFUL... PERFECT!



LATER THERE WILL BE TIME TO TRANSLATE THE DELICATELY CALLIGRAPHED TEXT, FOR THE MOMENT I CAN ONLY DRINK IN THE FINELY WROUGHT TERROR OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS...

BEARDSLEY... DORE... BOSCH... THEY ALL HAD THE ABILITY, BUT NONE POSSESSED LEMODE'S VISION... **NONE!**



HERE IS A MAN WHO LOOKED BEYOND THE GRAVE, BEYOND THE DARKEST UNKNOWN CORNERS OF THE MIND, INTO HELL ITSELF! EACH PAGE IS MORE FEARFUL THAN THE LAST...



W-WHAT?! I DON'T BELIEVE IT... HE SEEMS TO HAVE FORESEEN HIS OWN **D-DEATH**...

NOW THERE IS AN INCREASING MOISTNESS TO MY FINGERS, EACH BREATH COMES QUICKER AND SHORTER... I TURN THE PAGES MORE RAPIDLY...

1-IMPOSSIBLE... THE CLOTHING AND SETTINGS IN THESE LATER ILLUSTRATIONS... THEY GO BEYOND LEMODE'S CENTURY... THROUGH THE YEARS... HE COULDN'T HAVE...



DOWN IN MY THROAT, A SCREAM IS STRIVING TO BURST OUT, BUT I KNOW IT WILL NEVER COME... MY FASCINATION IS FAR TOO GREAT...

**MURCH!**

RAMSEY... HOW?!



EVERY NERVE ENDING TINGLES, MY HEART POUNDS LOUD AND FAST, BUT I **MUST** KNOW... **MUST** LEARN... **WHAT'S NEXT**... THE SOUND OF THE PAGE TURNING IS LIKE A BRASH OF LIGHTNING...

**ME!** A FEW HOURS AGO... B-BUT, THERE ARE SO MANY MORE PAGES LEFT... WHAT CAN...



**SHUT THE BOOK! THROW IT AWAY... DON'T LOOK ANYMORE! DON'T TOUCH THE PAGE... DON'T TURN IT... DON'T LOO---**

N-NO...  
**NO!!**



THAT NOISE! SOMEONE'S ENTERED THE ROOM BEHIND ME... GOT TO BREAK FREE OF THE BOOK... TURN AND SEE WHO IT I---



"TSK, TSK! DANFORTH NEVER GOT TO FINISH HIS BOOK... IT FINISHED HIM! NOW WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT THE REST OF THE PICTURES WERE LIKE... MAYBE, **RABID READER**, THERE WAS ONE OF YOU!"



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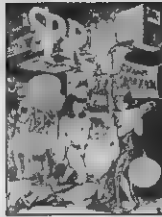
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**PROLOGUE:** "AT FIRST, I DON'T SEE ANYTHING EXCEPT THE WOODS AROUND ME, BUT I ***SENSE*** SOMETHING... ***SOMETHING HUMAN!*** THEN THE GIRL APPEARS, WALKING WITH QUICK NERVOUS STEPS..."



"THE SMELL OF FEAR IS ON HER, GROWING AS THE NIGHT WIND MAKES THE TREES AND BRANCHES CREAK AND MOAN..."



"HER HEAD DARTS FIRST THIS WAY, THEN THAT STARTING AT EVERY SHADOW, EACH RATTLE OF DRY LEAVES SWEEPED ACROSS THE GROUND..."



"I CAN ALMOST HEAR HER HEART POUNDING... SHE HASN'T SEEN ME YET, BUT SHE STARTS TO RUN, SUDDENLY SURE OF DANGER NEARBY..."

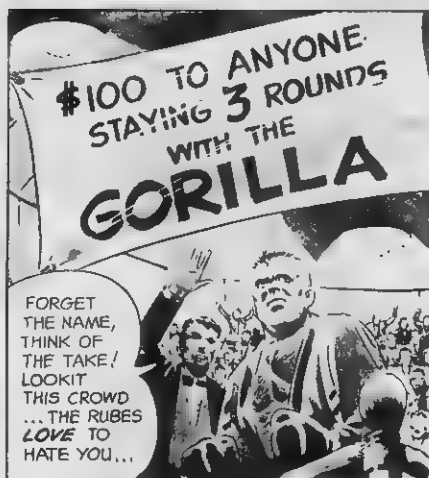
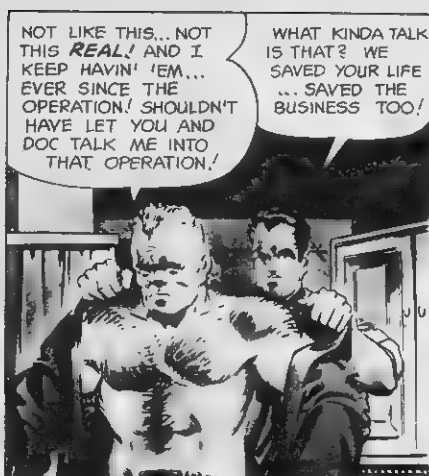


"THEN WHEN IT IS TOO LATE, SHE LOOKS TO THE BRANCHES ABOVE!"



# BEAST MAN!







**QUIT??!** ARE YOU NUTS?? WE'RE UNDER CONTRACT FOR THIS TOUR... IN DEBT FOR EQUIPMENT... ALREADY ADVERTISED IN CITIES ALONG THE ROAD...

SAW A SPECIALIST IN TOWN TODAY 'BOUT THOSE PAINS I'VE BEEN GETTING... SAYS IT'S MY HEART... SAYS IF I KEEP FIGHTIN' THEY'LL KEEP GETTIN' WORSE!

WALSH, I AIN'T CRAZY 'BOUT THIS CARNIVAL BUSINESS ANYHOW, NOW IT COULD **KILL ME**... NEVER BEEN MUCH ON THINKIN', BUT THERE MUST BE SOMEWAY AROUND IT...

BIG LUG LIKE YOU WITH A BUM TICKER... AWRIGHT, AWRIGHT! I'LL FIGURE SOMETHIN' OUT!



AND WITHIN A WEEK, WALSH HAD THE ANSWER...

**T-THE DOC?** HE'S NOTHIN' BUT A YET FOR THE SHOW ANIMALS... AND A RUMMY TO BOOT!

HE WAS ALSO A BRILLIANT SURGEON BEFORE THE AUTHORITIES NAILED HIM FOR UNORTHODOX PRACTICES... **TRUST ME!**

WITH A BAD HEART, CERTAIN TO KILL IN A FEW YEARS, WHAT WAS THERE TO LOSE?

THIS SEDATIVE WILL PUT YOU OUT IN A FEW MINUTES... LET'S GET YOU IN TO THE OPERATING TABLE...

THERE'S NO SWEAT, AMES! I WOULDN'T RISK THIS IF I THOUGHT ANYTHING'D GO WRONG...



THE GRIP OF THE SEDATIVE WAS IMMEDIATE, ALLOWING ONLY ONE LAST QUICK GLIMPSE BEFORE OVERPOWERING...

**T-THE GORILLA...** THE ONE... THEY HAD TO SHOOT... THIS MORNING...

SHOOT? YES, BUT IN THE HEAD... HE STILL HAS A FINE, HEALTHY...



**--HEART!**



THE SOUND OF THE GONG DRIVES AMES'S TORTURED THOUGHTS BACK TO THE PRESENT... BACK TO THE GLARE OF OVERHEAD LIGHTS AND THE POUNDING LEATHER... HARD WILD PUNCHES RAIN IN ON HIM TO BE IGNORED, SLUGGED OFF, AND RETURNED!



HE FIGHTS WITHOUT STYLE, WITHOUT TECHNIQUE, SLASHING AND JABBING WITH AN INSTINCTIVE FURY... AN ANIMAL VICIOUSNESS THAT COMES NOT FROM TRAINING, BUT... **FROM THE HEART!**



THEN, IT IS ALL OVER UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, THE NEXT TOWN...

HERE'S YOUR CUT! YOU SHOULD GIVE THOSE LOCAL BOYS MORE OF CHANCE BEFORE FINISHING THEM... WE'RE GONNA RUN OUT OF TAKERS!

SOMETHIN' HAPPENS TO ME IN THE RING, WALSH... JUST LIKE IN THOSE DREAMS! I GO **WILD**... C-CAN'T HELP IT... EVER SINCE THE OPERATION!



I GET MORE LIKE AN ANIMAL EVERY DAY...



...AND **NIGHTS** I DON'T EVEN WANNA KNOW ABOUT!



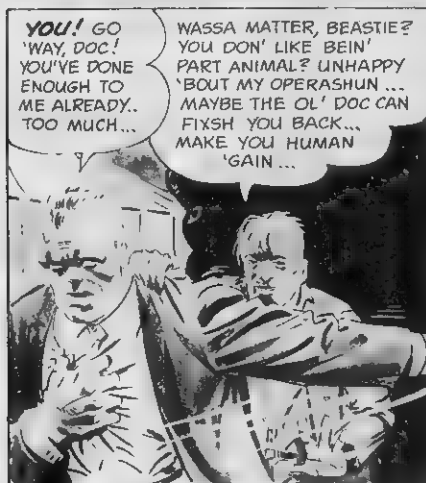


THE ANIMALS KNOW... THEY CAN SENSE THE GORILLA IN ME! IT'S TAKING OVER... WHEN I SLEEP, IT DOES COMPLETELY! IT ISN'T JUST A DREAM... I'M A... A...

A  
W  
W  
O  
W  
R  
R  
R

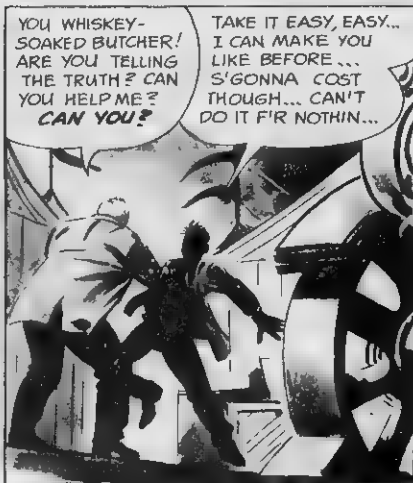


**BEAST MAN!** HALF-GORILLA, HALF-MAN... **BEAST MAN!**



**YOU!** GO 'WAY, DOC! YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH TO ME ALREADY... TOO MUCH...

WASSA MATTER, BEASTIE? YOU DON' LIKE BEIN' PART ANIMAL? UNHAPPY 'BOUT MY OPERASHUN ... MAYBE THE OL' DOC CAN FIXSH YOU BACK... MAKE YOU HUMAN 'GAIN ...

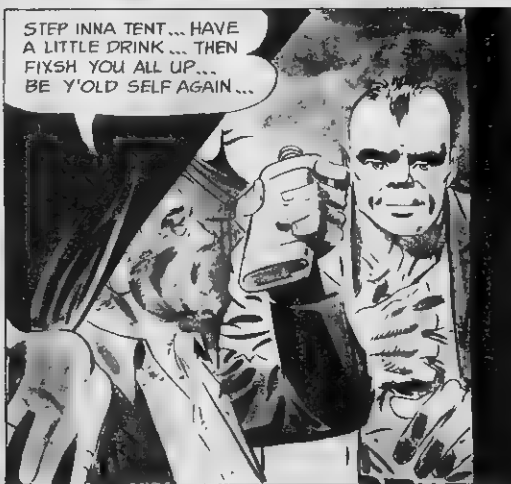


YOU WHISKEY-SOAKED BUTCHER! ARE YOU TELLING THE TRUTH? CAN YOU HELP ME? **CAN YOU?**

TAKE IT EASY, EASY... I CAN MAKE YOU LIKE BEFORE ... S'GONNA COST THOUGH... CAN'T DO IT F'R NOTHIN...



THINK I WON'T PAY TO BE NORMAL AGAIN? HERE, **HERE!** AS MUCH AS YOU WANT... **HERE!**



STEP INNA TENT ... HAVE A LITTLE DRINK ... THEN FIXSH YOU ALL UP... BE Y'OLD SELF AGAIN ...

THE CRIES OF THE MENAGERIE BEASTS ECHO ABOUT THE NOW DESERTED CARNIVAL GROUNDS FALLING ON UNINTERESTED EARS...

HA! THE BIG JERK LOOKED REALLY CONVINCED WHEN HE RAN OFF... REALLY BELIEVES HE TURNS INTO A GORILLA!



JUST LIKE HE REALLY BELIEVED HE HAD A BAD HEART!



RELUCTANT TO BELIEVE HE MIGHT LOSE HIS MEAL TICKET, WALSH HAD RECHECKED AMES'S CONDITION WITH THE HEART SPECIALIST...

B-BUT YOUR X-RAYS SHOW HIS TICKER'S OKAY! THE BIG APE LIED...

PHYSICALLY OKAY... SUBCONSCIOUSLY, HE HATES BOXING. TRIES TO ESCAPE IT WITH ATTACKS INDUCED BY HIS OWN MIND... PSYCHOSOMATIC, BUT NO LESS FATAL... ONLY BY QUITTING CAN HE BE CURED!



YET THE VERY CAUSE OF AMSES'S CONDITION SUGGESTED A CURE...

IF HE CONVINCED HIMSELF HE'S GOT A BUM HEART, HE CAN CONVINCE HIMSELF HE'S GOT A **NEW** HEART... THE HEART OF AN ANIMAL MORE OF A FIGHTER THAN AMES COULD EVER BE!

THE CUT ON HIS CHEST'LL LOOK JUST LIKE AN INCISION WAS MADE... FAR AS HE'LL EVER KNOW, I **DID** OPERATE ON HIM TONIGHT!



A CURE THAT WOULD PREVENT HIS EVER TRYING TO QUIT AGAIN!

FROM TIME TO TIME I'LL GIVE HIM A SHOT OF THIS... THE LUG'LL THINK IT'S POST-OPERATIONAL TREATMENT! ACTUALLY IT PUTS HIM IN A TRANCELIKE STATE, OPEN TO SUGGESTION...

AND THE THINGS I'M GONNA SUGGEST'LL HAVE HIM CONVINCED HE'S MORE APE THAN MAN! HE WON'T BE FIT FOR ANYTHING BUT THIS RACKET!



RIPPING HIS CLOTHING AFTER THE DREAMS I SUGGESTED REALLY DID THE TRICK ON THE POOR BOOB...



NOW ALL I GOTTA DO IS KEEP DOC HAPPY SO HE DOESN'T SPILL THE BEANS!



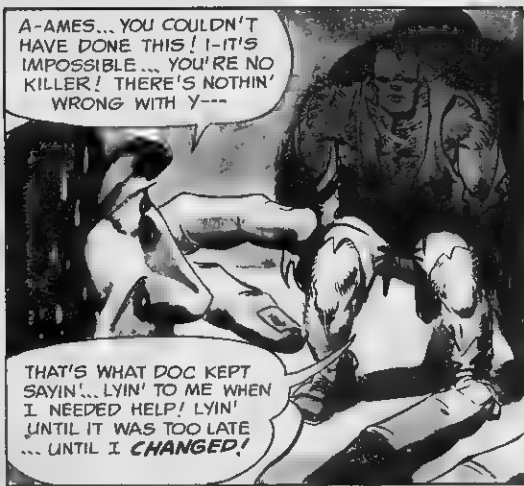
DOC! HEY, YOU OLD RUMPTOT... LET'S GO INTO TOWN! HIT A FEW NIGHTSPOTS... DOC?



@M#\*!! DARK... WHEREZAT LIGHT CORD?







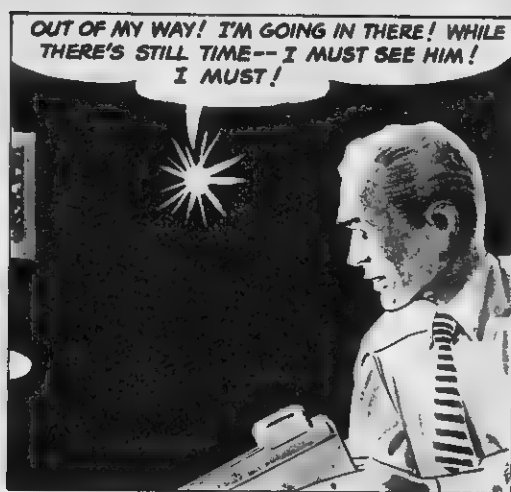
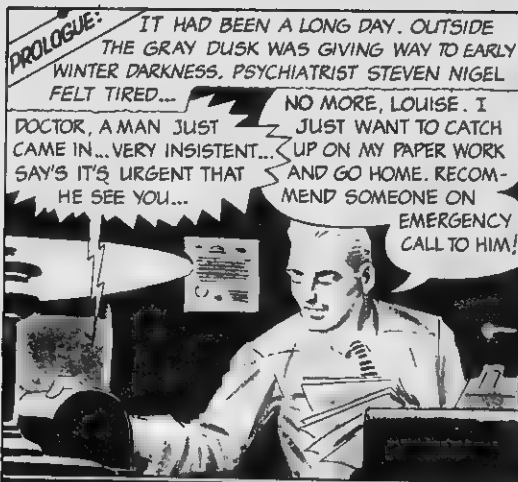
AS THE BONE-CRUSHING HANDS OF THE BEAST MAN CLOSE ON HIS CRUMPLING BODY, WALSH HAS NO TIME TO APPRECIATE THE AMAZING JOB HE HAS DONE IN RE-CHANNELING AMES'S PSYCHOSOMATIC NATURE ... ONLY TIME TO SCREAM!

... IT'S ALL IN YOUR MIND! EEEYAHNNH!



HMMMMMM! LOOKS LIKE A CASE OF MAY THE **BEAST MAN** WIN! AND WITH ALL THE POSITIVE THINKING AMES HAS GOING FOR HIM, HE WON'T LOSE HIS GRIP ON THE SITUATION ... OR WALSH! HEE, HEE!





# BLOOD OF THE WEREWOLF!



...THAT SENT ME ON A BENDER THAT DIDN'T END TILL I CLOSED HALF THE BARS IN TOWN. WITH NO PLACE TO GO BUT HOME, I DECIDED TO TAKE A SHORT-CUT THROUGH THE PARK ...





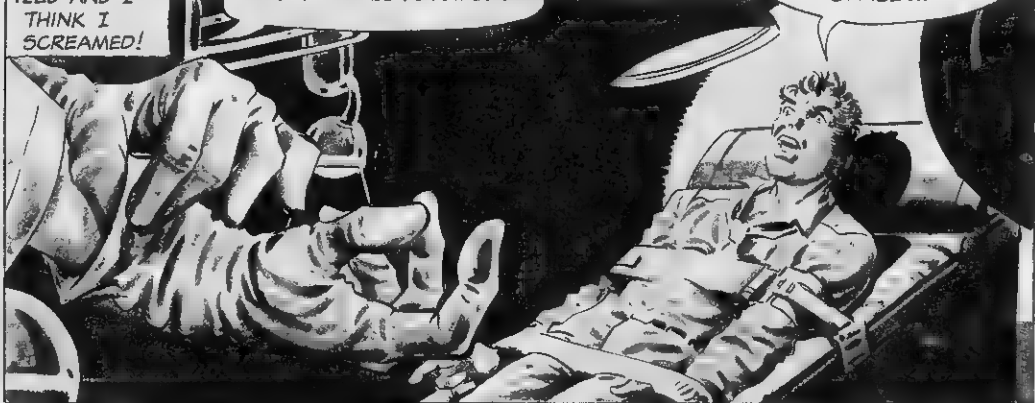
FOR A LONG TIME I FLOATED IN LIMBO, DISTANTLY CONSCIOUS OF THINGS GOING ON AROUND ME... A FIGURE IN BLACK STANDING OVER ME... BEING DRAGGED INTO A CAR, LOOKING UP AT AN OLD BROWNSTONE...



...THEN EVERYTHING CRYSTALIZED AND I THINK I SCREAMED!

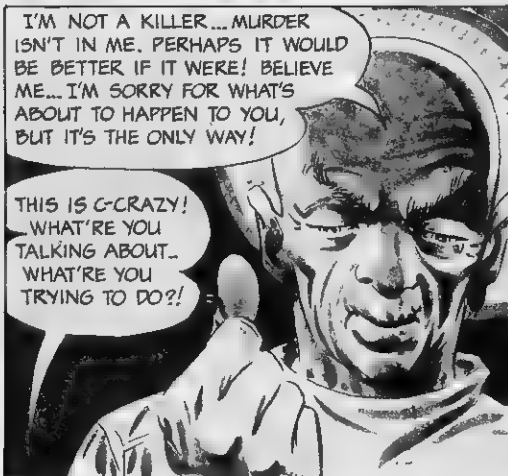
GOOD! I FEARED I MIGHT HAVE HIT YOU TOO HARD... YOU MUST UNDERSTAND IT'S NOT MY INTENTION TO HURT YOU IF AT ALL POSSIBLE!

W-WHAT... THIS IS SOME KIND OF... DOCTORS... OFFICE...



I'M NOT A KILLER... MURDER ISN'T IN ME. PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER IF IT WERE! BELIEVE ME... I'M SORRY FOR WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN TO YOU, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY!

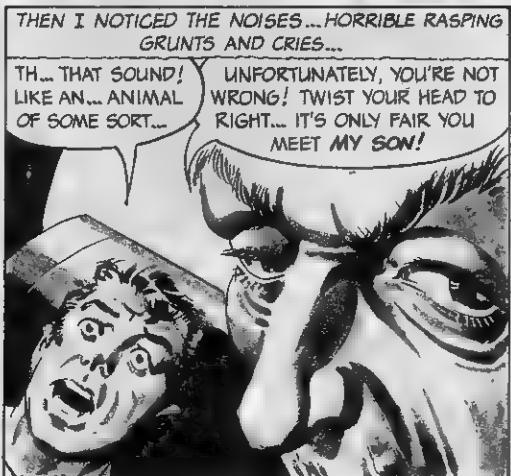
THIS IS G-CRAZY! WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT... WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO DO?!



THEN I NOTICED THE NOISES... HORRIBLE RASPING GRUNTS AND CRIES...

TH... THAT SOUND! LIKE AN... ANIMAL OF SOME SORT...

UNFORTUNATELY, YOU'RE NOT WRONG! TWIST YOUR HEAD TO RIGHT... IT'S ONLY FAIR YOU MEET MY SON!







I AWOKE BACK IN THE PARK, IN THE SPOT WHERE I'D FALLEN THE NIGHT BEFORE IN THE COLD MORNING LIGHT, IT ALL COULD HAVE BEEN AN ALCOHOLIC DELUSION...EVEN SO, I RAN ALL THE WAY HOME.

ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME CRAZY? WHAT GOT INTO YOU? I'VE CALLED THE POLICE... EVERYWHERE! DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY CARL... ANYTHING?

THERE WAS NOTHING...IT WAS ALL IMPOSSIBLE! HOW COULD I EXPECT OTHERS TO BELIEVE WHEN I COULDN'T BE SURE MYSELF...

DARLING, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'VE BEEN LIKE A ZOMBIE SINCE THAT NIGHT...DON'T WORRY SO! ANOTHER JOB'LL TURN UP...

CARL, YOU LISTENING? CARL? WHY DO YOU KEEP STARING LIKE THAT?!

THEN SLOWLY, LITTLE BY LITTLE, THE CHANGES BEGAN...

MY EYEBROWS WEREN'T ALWAYS LIKE THIS! THEY'RE GETTING BUSHIER...GROWING TOGETHER!

HAIR ON MY PALMS! ANOTHER OF THE SIGNS... IT WASN'T A DREAM! THE OLD MAN DID IT... I KNOW HE DID IT... I KNOW IT!

CARL, WILL YOU SIT DOWN YOU'VE BEEN LIKE A CAGED ANIMAL ALL EVENING! PACING THE FLOOR, RUNNING OVER TO THE WINDOW, PACING SOME MORE... OVER AND OVER...

CARL, DO YOU HEAR ME?

CARL!

I RUSHED INTO THE NIGHT RUNNING AS FAR AND AS FAST AS I COULD UNTIL AT LAST I STUMBLED AND FELL WRITHING TO THE GROUND, THE RAYS OF THE FULL MOON SCORCHING ME LIKE THE DESERT SUN, MAKING THE VERY BLOOD WITHIN ME BOIL LIKE A SURGING VOLCANO...



THAT NIGHT I BE-  
CAME THE SAME  
BLOODLUSTING  
CARNAL MAN-  
HUNTER THAT THE  
OLD DOCTOR'S SON  
HAD ONCE BEEN.  
FOR THE FIRST  
TIME I STALKED  
MY PREY AND  
RAN IT TO EARTH...



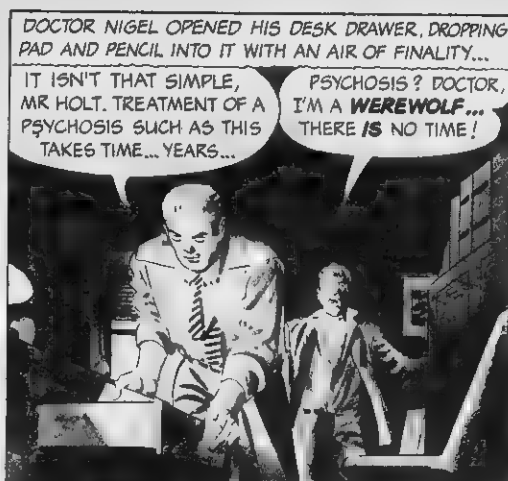
...AS I WOULD DO IN THE FUTURE, TIME AND TIME AGAIN!



I NEVER WENT  
BACK HOME. FOR  
MY WIFE'S SAKE  
**I COULDN'T!**  
FOR MONTHS!  
NOW, IT'S  
BEEN LIKE  
THIS...

I KEEP LOOKING FOR BROWN-  
STONES WITH DOCTORS' OFFICES,  
BURSTING IN ON THEM... JUST  
LIKE I DID TODAY... HOPING TO FIND  
THAT OLD FIEND WHO DID THIS  
TO ME!









NIGEL CONTINUED FIRING UNTIL THE REVOLVER CLICKED ON EMPTY CHAMBERS, CONTINUED FIRING THE REVOLVER THAT HAD BEEN IN HIS DESK DRAWER SINCE FIRST HEARING OF THE FULL MOON MURDERS...



THE BEAST-THING THAT HAD BEEN CARL HOLT SLUMPED STIFFLY OVER THE DESK AND MELTED INTO HUMAN FORM. THE DOOR BURST OPEN AND THE HUB-BUB OF SPEC-TATORS FROM ADJOIN-ING OFFICES REACHED IN...

DOCTOR NIGEL, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I'VE SENT FOR THE POLICE!

H-HE WAS A **MANIAC!** TRIED TO KILL ME! I FIRED JUST IN TIME...



WITH THE SOUND OF SIRENS, THE CROWD OF THE CURIOUS DISPERSED, EXCEPT FOR ONE MAN...

EVERYTHING OKAY, STEVEN?

POLICE MAY BE A LITTLE CURIOUS ABOUT THE SILVER BULLETS, THAT'S ALL. JUST CHANCE THE WAY HE BARGED IN HERE. LUCKY HE DIDN'T PICK YOUR OFFICE TO ENTER FIRST...



...RIGHT, DAD?



**IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!**

**THE  
ROOK!**

**AMAZONS!  
HAGGARTH!**





AUTUMN IS ON THE WIND. A HINT OF CHILL TO COME TINGES THE BREEZE THAT SCATTERS DRY LEAVES ACROSS THE GLOOM OF A STARLESS NIGHT, AND MAKES DYING TREES CREAK AND MOAN, THEIR BRANCHES SCRATCHING AT THE DARKNESS... AND SO OUR *PULSATING PROLOGUE* BEGINS, AS TWO POLICEMEN SLOWLY PACE THEIR GLOOMY BEAT...

MY FIRST ASSIGNMENT, AND I GET BROKEN IN FOR THIS GRAVEYARD TOUR! HOW CAN YOU STAND THE QUIET, DOWNEY?

DON'T LET IT FOOL YOU, LAD... WE'VE HAD OUR SHARE OF TROUBLES AROUND HERE LATEL---



L-LORD... THAT SCREAM! IT SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM THE... THE...

**THE CEMETERY!**  
INSIDE... QUICKLY!



CAME FROM OVER THIS WAY--- WHAT'S THIS? LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY DROPPED SOMETHIN'...

A SPADE... AND THERE'S **B-BLOOD** ON IT.



ALL RIGHT!  
**WHO'S THERE?**  
COME ON OUT!  
**NOW!**

NO? THEN  
WE'RE COMIN'  
IN!



WHAT TH--- I KNOW THIS PUNK! GOT A RECORD FOR GRAVEROBBIN'...

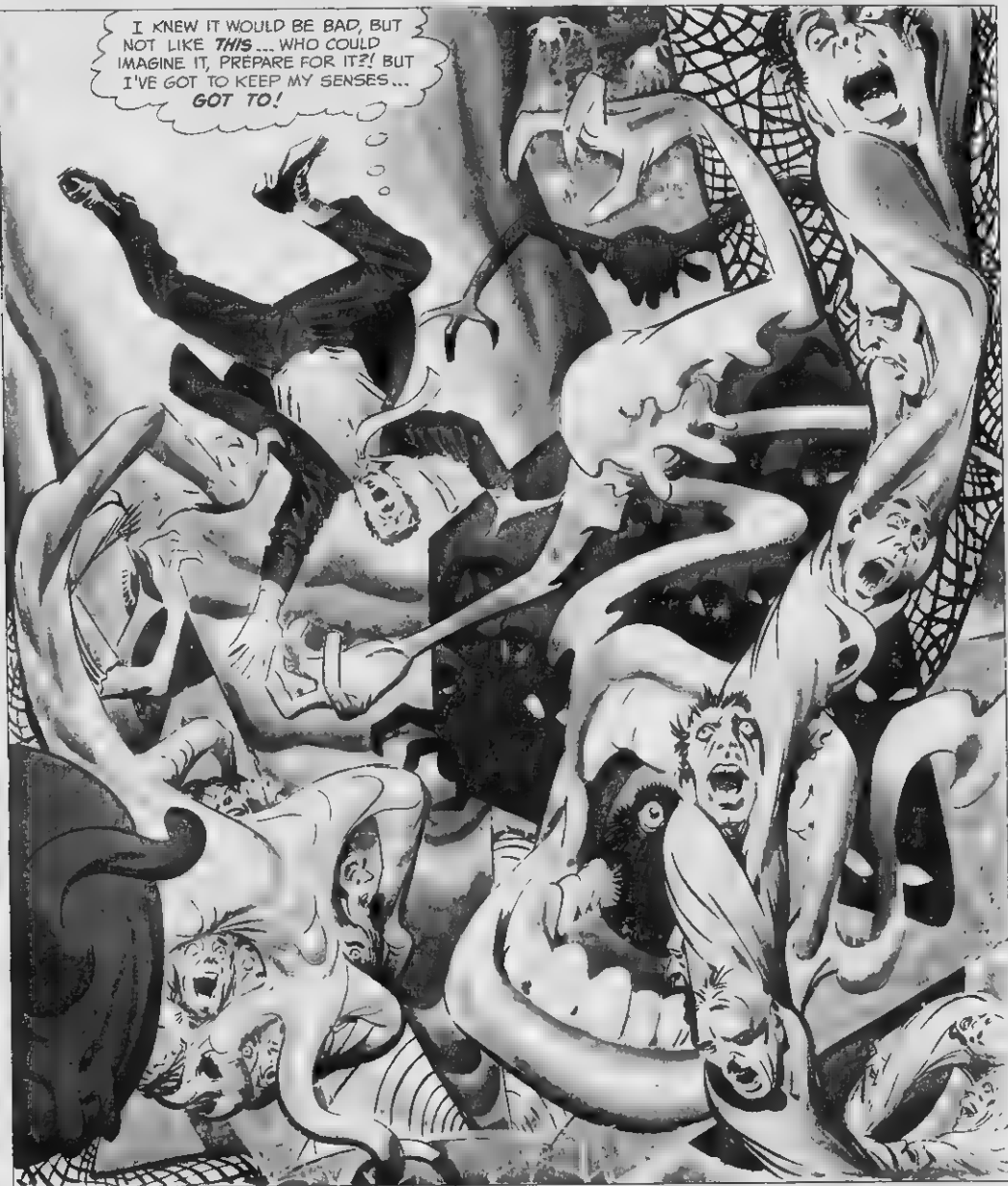
B-BUT, DOWNEY... HE'S GONE OUT OF HIS MIND! AND HIS HAIR... IT'S TURNED **SNOW WHITE!**



# SECOND CHANCE!

FOR A TIME AFTER HE DIED, EDWARD NUGENT DRIFTED IN A LIMBO WITHOUT DIMENSION, WITHOUT THOUGHT, LIKE A DREAMLESS SLUMBER... THEN, SENSATION WAKENED IN HIS FLOATING FORM AND HE FOUND HIMSELF DRAWN INTO A HALF-WORLD OF HORROR, A SHIFTING, CHANGING NIGHTMARE THAT REACHED OUT AND ENGULFED HIM, AN AMOBEA UNIVERSE WRAPPING AROUND HIM, PULLING HIM TO ITS CORE...

I KNEW IT WOULD BE BAD, BUT NOT LIKE *THIS*... WHO COULD IMAGINE IT, PREPARE FOR IT?! BUT I'VE GOT TO KEEP MY SENSES... GOT TO!



DEEPER AND DEEPER EDWARD NUGENT PLUNGED INTO THE DARK DOMAIN, PLEADING AND BEGGING WITHIN HIMSELF FOR IT TO END... UNTIL, TO HIS SUDDEN REGRET, IT DID!

WHAT...  
OH, NO...  
**NOOOO!**



THE IRON GRASPS, THE HIDEOUS CLUTCHINGS DID NOT LESSEN... NUGENT FELT THE URGE TO RAGE, TO STRUGGLE, TO BURST FREE OF THE UNSPEAKABLE GUARD THAT BORE HIM...

YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE!  
I SHOULDN'T BE TREATED LIKE THIS!



HE WAS LOCKED IN GRIPS ALIEN AND REPULSIVE, CARRIED BY THINGS Sired FROM SEEDS OF MADNESS... CREATURES TO MAKE HIM WONDER IF DEAD MEN MIGHT GO MAD!

YOU ARE LATE,  
EDWARD NUGENT!  
**HE** WILL NOT BE KEPT WAITING!

LET ME GO! LET ME GO!  
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!



HIS PITIFUL SQUIRMING EFFORT WAS FUTILITY ITSELF, AND THE HOLDS TIGHTENED, UNTIL HE SCREAMED WITH THE PAIN OF IT... THEN, SUDDENLY, TOO SUDDENLY, HE WAS RELEASED...

**DOWN!** FLATTEN YOURSELF BEFORE THE MIGHTY ONE, BEFORE THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS, BEFORE GREAT **BEELZEBUB!**



NUGENT PRESSED CLOSE TO THE FIRMAMENT BENEATH HIM AS THOUGH IT MIGHT SWALLOW HIM AND HIDE HIM FROM THAT WHICH HE WAS AFRAID TO LIFT HIS HEAD TO SEE. A VOICE LIKE VELVET-WRAPPED THUNDER SPOKE HIS NAME...

NUGENT! I'VE WAITED SOME TIME FOR THIS...

B-BUT... I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD GO THIS FAR... DON'T YOU REMEMBER? WE MADE AN AGREEMENT... A **FACT!**





WE MADE A BARGAIN! I'VE WORN THIS SIGN OF YOURS SINCE AS PROOF... SURELY YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN, SURELY YOU WOULDN'T---

**I FORGET NOTHING!**  
THIS IS ONLY A CHANCE TO RECONSIDER... TO CALL THE BARGAIN OFF AND ACCEPT YOUR FATE AS IT NOW STANDS!

BEHIND HIM CAME A GREAT RUMBLE, AND NUGENT TURNED TO FIND HIMSELF TEETERING ON THE BRINK OF A HUGE PRECIPICE... ECHOING OUT OF THE DEPTHS CAME TORTURED CRIES OF THE DOUBLY DAMNED AND BARELY DISCERNABLE TO THE EYE WERE QUIVERING NAMELESS... THINGS... UNCONSCIOUSLY, HE BEGAN TO BACK AWAY.

Y-YOU'RE TRYING TO FRIGHTEN ME... SCARE ME OUT OF IT... THE DEAL WAS IF I DIED YOU'D GIVE ME LIFE AGAIN, I COULD TAKE UP WHERE I LEFT OFF...



GIVE UP AND REMAIN HERE WHEN I CAN STILL HOLD YOU TO OUR PACT? I WANT WHAT'S DUE ME!..

FIRST LOOK AND SEE WHAT WAITS WHEN THE AGREEMENT'S DONE...



WITH THE ROTTEN LIFE I'VE LEAD, YOU GOT ME EITHER WAY, BUT WITH THE PACT I'M GONNA GET A LOTTA GOOD YEARS IN BEFORE YOU DO! WHAT DO YOU THINK I MADE IT FOR?

VERY WELL, NUGENT, BUT NOW THE PIT WILL BE WAITING...



OKAY, OKAY, YOU'VE HAD YOUR SAY! NOW I WANT TO GO BACK AND I WANT TO GO BACK **RIGHT NOW**, AS WE AGREED!

TO TAKE UP LIFE WHERE YOU LEFT OFF...





ONCE AGAIN, EDWARD NUGENT FOUND HIMSELF FLOATING, WHIRLING, FASTER AND FASTER, BEING HEAVED UP BY THE TERRIBLE DARK WORLD THAT HAD SWALLOWED HIM...



"...TO WHERE I LEFT OFF!" THIS GRAVE WAS MY LAST PLACE ON EARTH! HE'S TRICKED ME! I'LL DIE IN A FEW MINUTES HERE!

THEN, FAR ABOVE HIM, IN THE WORLD OF THE LIVING, NUGENT HEARD SOUNDS...THE SOUNDS OF LABORING, OF METAL DIGGING INTO EARTH...CHIPPING AWAY AT THE BLANKET OF SOIL THAT WAS SLOWLY SMOTHERING HIM...



EPILOGUE: IN THE SOFTEST LIGHTS, MADNESS IS HARSH; BY THE FLASHLIGHTS BEAM, IT IS ALL BUT CONTAGIOUS. BOTH POLICEMEN SHIVER AS THE BREEZE CATCHES THE INSANE GIGGLING AND FLINGS IT TO THE FAR CORNERS OF THE CEMETERY...



FOOTSTEP AFTER FOOTSTEP IS TRACED BACK, UNTIL...



A SILENCE FALLS OVER THE TWO POLICEMEN AND THE ONLY SOUND IN THE CEMETERY IS THE WIND WHICH HAS BECOME COLDER... AND PERHAPS, FAINT ABOVE THE WIND, SO Distant IT MIGHT BE FROM ANOTHER WORLD, A CRY... LIKE THE SOUND OF A SOUL IN TORMENT!



# DUNGEONS & DRAGONS MODEL KITS!

## ORC WAR ACTION SCENE

A team of adventurers assault the evil Wizard's castle! About 30 figures including dwarf warriors, which. Orc warriors! Pre-formed 12 x 16" base includes castle foundation, road, mountains, hillsides! Combines with Dungeon Invaders to form one huge scene! #04361-\$10.75

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# RAIDERS

## OF THE LOST ARK

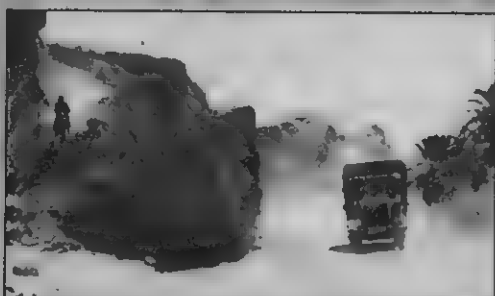
### ACTION PLAYSETS FROM THE MOVIE

#### WELL OF SOULS PLAYSET

Relive the mystery and terror of the final moments before Indiana Jones and Marion Ravenwood find the Ark of the Covenant! Playset includes break-through wall with corpses on one side, ancient hieroglyphics on the other; a hook, a rope and two torches to aid in their escape; a mummy and 12 snakes to prevent it, and poles to help them carry the beautifully detailed vacuum metakized Ark from the altar! Action figures not included! #26344-\$14.90



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#### DESERT CHASE

This smaller-scale playset is a huge desert scene including Indy on horseback chasing caravan, exterior of Well of Souls, Nazi airplane, train tracks, oil tanks, hills, foliage, many figures, and more! #24265-\$10.75

# WHERE SORCERY LIVES!





AT THE CONJURER'S GLOATING WORDS, THE SHIMMERING IMAGE HE PRESENTED BROADENED, AND TO GARTH'S HORROR HE SAW...

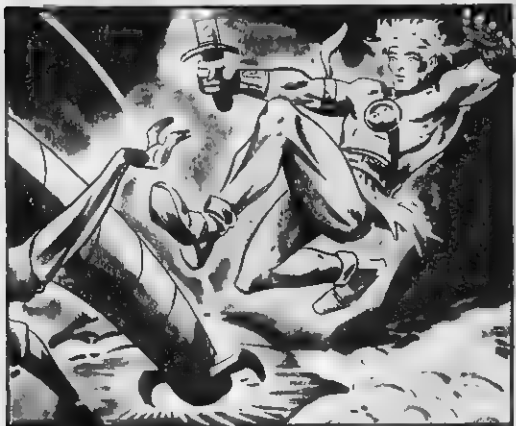




SWORD FLAILING IN HELPLESS RAGE, GARTH LEAPED AT THE VANISHING IMAGE TO NO AVAIL! THEN FROM BEHIND, CAME AN OMINOUS STIRRING...



...AND ALL THE AGILITY IN HIS SEASONED WARRIOR'S BODY WAS SORELY TESTED BY THE VENOMOUS WHIPLASH SWIRLING ABOUT HIM!



HARD PRESSED, GARTH SIDE-STEPPED THE ATTACKING MONSTER AND SWUNG WITH ALL HIS MIGHT TO MEET THE THRASHING TAIL, GAMBLING TO STRIKE A JOINT...



IT'S HIDE IS TOUGHER THAN THE FINEST ARMOR! MY STROKES GLANCE OFF LIKE LOVETAPS! BUT IF I CAN'T SEVER THE HEAD PERHAPS I CAN AT LEAST...



SWORD DRIPPING BLOOD AND VENOM, GARTH WAVED IT IN THE MISTY AIR ABOUT HIM...





IMPUDENT SAVAGE! HIS  
BRAIN IS IN HIS SWORD ARM!  
PRESS ON, FOOL... YOU'VE  
HAD BUT A TASTE OF  
SALAMAND'S WIZARDRY!



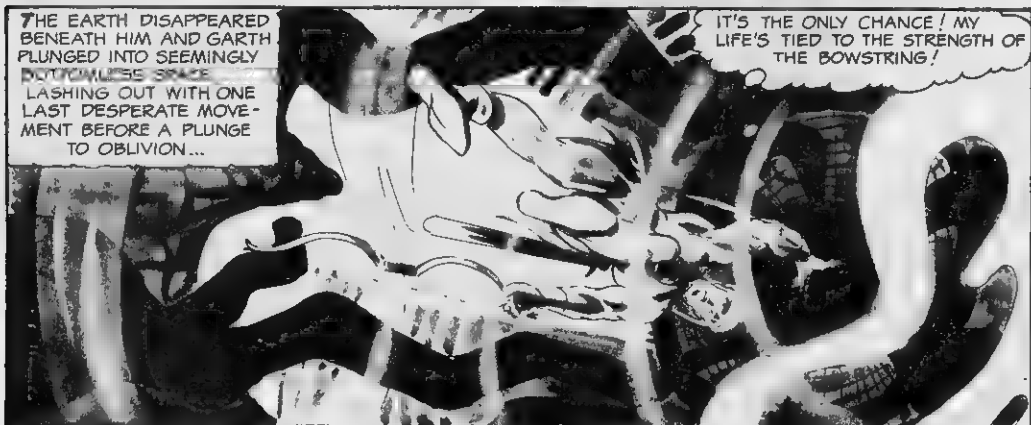
YOU MARCH TOO QUICKLY, TOO CARE-  
LESSLY, GARTH... A STIRRING OF THESE  
WATERS WILL SHOW YOU THE ERROR  
OF SUCH RASHNESS...



CURSE SALAMAND  
AND HIS LAND!  
THE VERY ATMO-  
SPHERE HANGS  
HEAVY WITH EVIL...  
THE FOG ENVELOPES  
LIKE A CLOAK  
OF WOOL! IMPOS-  
SIBLE TO TELL  
WHERE THE  
NEXT STEP...



...LEADS!!



THE EARTH DISAPPEARED  
BENEATH HIM AND GARTH  
PLUNGED INTO SEEMINGLY  
ENDLESS SPACE  
LASHING OUT WITH ONE  
LAST DESPERATE MOVE-  
MENT BEFORE A PLUNGE  
TO OBLIVION...

IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE! MY  
LIFE'S TIED TO THE STRENGTH OF  
THE BOWSTRING!

THE DOWNWARD PLUNGE CEASED WITH A JOLT THAT WOULD HAVE RIPPED OUT THE TENDONS IN A LESSER ARM! GARTH SWAYED ABOVE THE ABYSS, CLUTCHING THE BOW THAT NOW WAS HIS LIFE-LINE IN A GRIP OF STEEL...

IT HOLDS!  
COULD ANY WEAPON  
SERVE A MAN  
BETTER?!

HE CLIMBS UP FROM THE VERY BRINK OF DESTRUCTION! I'LL TOY NO MORE! LET GARTH FACE THE WINGED GUARDIAN OF SALAMAND'S STRONGHOLD!

CHEST HEAVING, MUSCLES ACHING, GARTH PAUSED IN HIS ASSAULT, WHEN THE WIND BROUGHT TERRIBLE SOUNDS TO MAKE EVERY NERVE ENDING TINGLE... THE LOW MOANING WAIL OF A DIVING OBJECT AND THE LEATHERY BEAT OF UNEARTHLY WINGS!

SALAMAND HURLS HIS GENERAL TO THE FIELD! THE SAME GRIM REAPER THAT HARVESTED DEATH TO MY VILLAGE!

BODILY HURT WAS SUBMERGED AS GARTH BECAME A MACHINE OF COMBAT, SENDING SHAFT AFTER SHAFT SKYWARD TO THE ON-RUSHING HORROR!

HELL'S OWN MONSTER!  
IF I DO NOTHING ELSE, LET ME LIVE TO SLAY YOU!

THE ARROWS ARE BUT PINPRICKS... I CANNOT STOP ITS CHARGE!!



FOR THE SECOND TIME THE DEADLY AXE BLADE SLICED PAST GARTH, SO CLOSE AS TO SEND HAIR ON THE BACK OF HIS HEAD FLYING, AS WITH A WILD CRY, HE LEAPED...



THE WINGED MONSTER SHOT WILDLY THROUGH THE AIR, ITS UGLY HEAD TURNED TO BITE AT THE UNWELCOMED RIDER, WHOSE FREE HAND THRUST FLASHING STEEL AT THE SCALY NECK...



BLACK BLOOD SPURTED AS THE SWORD WENT HOME AND WITH AN EAR SHATTERING SCREECH, THE CREATURE PLUMMETED DOWNWARD...



PUSHING HIS RESERVE OF STRENGTH TO IT'S VERY LIMIT, GARTH LEAPED FORWARD AS THE SKELETAL MASTER OF THE DEATH STEED BEGAN TO RISE...





**SALAMAND!** YOUR OWN EVIL HAS DELIVERED ME TO YOUR DOORSTEP...  
**NOW WILL YOU FACE ME?!**

WITH LIMBS THAT SCREAMED TO COLLAPSE, GARTH PUSHED ON, DRUNK ON THE NEED FOR VENGEANCE.....



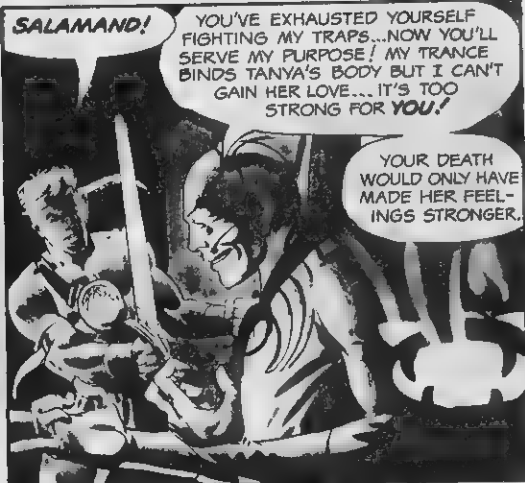
**SORCERER!** I'M HERE TO KILL YOU, SORCERER...  
**SHOW YOURSELF!**

GARTH STUMBLED INTO THE WIZARD'S INNER-CHAMBER TO A NUMBING SIGHT.....



**TANYA!** HER FACE HAS THE PALLOR OF DEATH... HER BROW LIKE ICE...THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING I CAN DO!

YOU'VE ALREADY DONE ENOUGH, GARTH... IN FACT, YOU'VE DONE EXACTLY AS I **PLANNED!**



**SALAMAND!**

YOU'VE EXHAUSTED YOURSELF FIGHTING MY TRAPS...NOW YOU'LL SERVE MY PURPOSE! MY TRANCE BINDS TANYA'S BODY BUT I CAN'T GAIN HER LOVE...IT'S TOO STRONG FOR YOU!

YOUR DEATH WOULD ONLY HAVE MADE HER FEELINGS STRONGER.



...NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, SO CLOSE, I CAN TURN THIS TO MY ADVANTAGE...

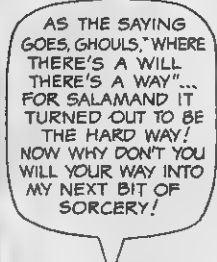
...BY ASSUMING YOUR SOUL!





DARKNESS SURROUNDED GARTH AND HE FELT HIMSELF SINKING INTO OBLIVION...AS THOUGH HIS VERY ESSENCE WAS BEING TORN FROM HIS BODY...WHEN...

LIFE SEEMED TO FLOOD BACK INTO HIS WEAKENED BODY, HIS BLURRED VISION SLOWLY CLEARED...



# CITY of DOOM!

THEY HAD LEFT THEM STARED OUT TO DIE ON THE BLACK SAND OF THE VOLCANIC HILLS AND HAD FOR THE  
 DEARS AND TAKEN TO THE GREAT A HAD TAKEN TO THE GREAT A HAD TAKEN TO THE GREAT A HAD TAKEN TO THE GREAT A  
 THERE ARE A FEW MORE IN A RATHER ANOTHER AND OTHERS WANTED WILL AND THE MATH



**NOW,** YOU CARRION SCUM!  
 YOU WON'T PREEN YOUR  
 FEATHERS OVER MY BONES...  
 NOT WHILE I'VE STILL  
 BUSINESS WITH ULTOR AND  
 THE OTHERS WHO LEFT  
 ME HERE!

A TORRENT OF RAGE AT HIS FORMER ASSOCIATES, VENTED ITSELF ON THE ATTACKING BIRDS



SCYTHIAN DOGS! HIRE ME TO FIGHT WITH THEM THEN RUN OFF WITH MY SHARE OF THE PLUNDER, LEAVING ME TO THE VULTURES!

UNTIL THE ATTACK WAS ENDED...



TOO SQUEAMISH TO TAKE A BLADE TO MY THROAT, OR EVEN STAY AND WATCH! THAT WAS THEIR FIRST MISTAKE...

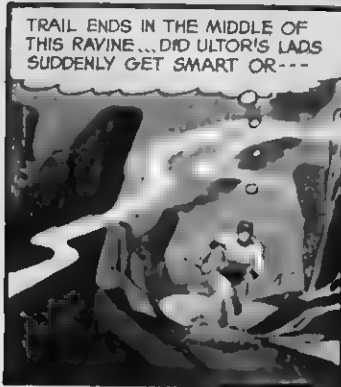


...NOT COVERING THEIR TRACKS WILL BE THEIR LAST!

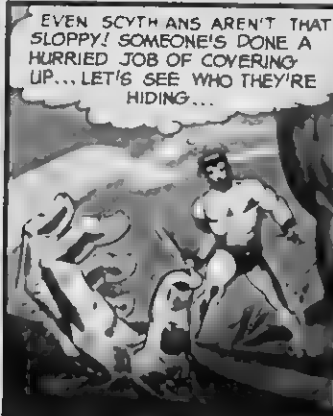
JOGGING AT A STEADY PACE, THANE STRUCK OUT ACROSS THE ROLLING HILLS AND GULFYS OF ASHEN BARRENESS, CONFIDENT OF CATCHING THE SCYTHIAN PARTY BEFORE NIGHTFALL

THE BARBARIAN'S HARD GREY EYES DARTED TO AN OBJECT THRUSTING OUT OF THE DARK SAND...

THANE GRIPPED THE COLD STIFF FINGERS AND PULLED HARD, EXPECTING TO UNEARTH THE BODY BELOW...



TRAIL ENDS IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS RAVINE... DID ULTOR'S LADS SUDDENLY GET SMART OR---



EVEN SCYTHIANS AREN'T THAT SLOPPY! SOMEONE'S DONE A HURRIED JOB OF COVERING UP... LET'S SEE WHO THEY'RE HIDING...



BY TROTH!

THANE KICKED AT THE SAND, ENLARGING THE HOLE WHERE HE'D REMOVED HIS GRUESOME DISCOVERY...



SCYTHIAN HELMET,  
BLOODSTAINS ON IT.  
REST IS BARE BONES...  
**SOMETHING** ATTACKED  
HIM, DIDN'T QUITE GET  
TO FINISH THE JOB!

HE DUG FURTHER, WIDENING THE AREA...



FIRST THE  
HELMET, NOW  
THIS. WHAT  
KIND OF ANIMAL  
FEASTS ON A  
MAN THEN BURIES  
HIS BONES AND  
EQUIPMENT?!

**HELP! HELP  
ME PLEASE!**

THE BARBARIAN WHIRLED AS A LITHE FIGURE SCRAM-  
BLED TOWARD THE WAINING WALL TOWARD HIM



THEY'RE RAVAGING OUR CITY!  
**SCYTHIAN RAIDERS!** PLUNDERING YOU MUST  
**HELP!**

**CITY?** IN  
THIS BLACK  
DESERT, A  
CITY?

THE BUSINESS WITH  
**CERTAIN SCYTHIANS...**  
ARE THEY A SMALL  
BAND? LEAD BY A MAN  
WITH AN EYE PATCH?

THE VERY SAME! OUR  
CITY IS ANCIENT,  
SPARSELY POPULATED.  
INADEQUATELY DEFENDED.  
THEY ENTERED PEACE-  
FULLY, **THEN STRUCK!**  
COME WITH ME,  
**PLEASE!**



AN ITCH FOR REVENGE TEASED THANE'S SWORD ARM. HE FOLLOWED  
THE GIRL OUT OF THE RAVINE, AND OVER A RISE OF BLACK ASHEN SAND...



HERE IS  
ANCIENT  
**KADITH!**  
I AM  
**LIVIA,**  
HIGH  
PRIESTESS  
THERE...

ULTOR'S A TREACHEROUS DOG, BUT HE HAS A  
NOSE FOR PLUNDER... WITH LUCK, I CAN  
PARLAY VENGEANCE INTO A PROFITABLE VENTURE!

CAUTIOUSLY THEY ADVANCED TO THE SPRAWLING STRUCTURE RISING OUT OF THE DARK WASTELAND...



NO WONDER ULTOR'S BAND GNAWS AT YOUR CITY'S ENTRAILS! IT'S AN OPEN INVITATION... NOT EVEN A GATE!

THE DESERT YIELDS FEW VISITORS...THOSE THAT COME, WE DO NOT WISH TO TURN AWAY...

LIVIA LEAD THANE FORWARD...THE STREETS WERE NARROW, TWISTING AND CURVING THROUGH ARCHES AND PASSAGeways IN A CONTINUOUS FLOW...



NOW YOU'RE PAYING FOR YOUR TRUST! YOUR **KADITH** IS STRANGE, PRIESTESS... I'M SURPRISED THAT ONE-EYED ROGUE AND HIS BAND OF JACKALS COULD MAKE THEIR WAY THROUGH THIS MAZE...



IT'S TOO QUIET, SCYTHIANS HAVE LITTLE STEALTH. SOMETHING'S WRON---  
**LIVIA!**

**GONE!** AND HALF A DOZEN PASSAGES SHE MIGHT HAVE TAKEN!

SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANCE WAS A SHUFFLING OR RUNNING. THANE PLUNGED THROUGH THE NEAREST ARCH TO THE SOUND, RACING ALONG WINDING STREETS AND LINKING CORRIDORS...



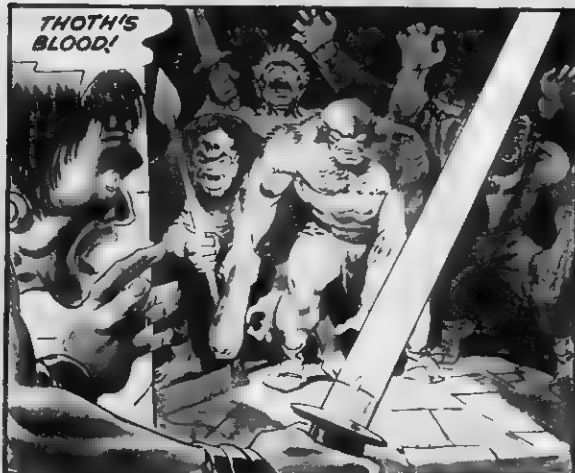
CURSE ME FOR A HOT-HEADED FOOL! ONE WAY LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER... THAT DOE-EYED WENCH HAS PUT ME IN A NEAT TRAP!

EVERY NERVE TINGLING, THANE CREEPT ALONG THE THE WINDING PASSAGE...



THESE WALLS ARE QUEER TO THE TOUCH... MADE OF NO MORTAR I KNOW! EVEN IN THE SHADOWS THERE'S A WARMTH TO THEM...

AND A DIRECTION TO THESE STREETS... THEY LEAD **DOWN** BUT TO...**WHAT?**



**THOTH'S BLOOD!**

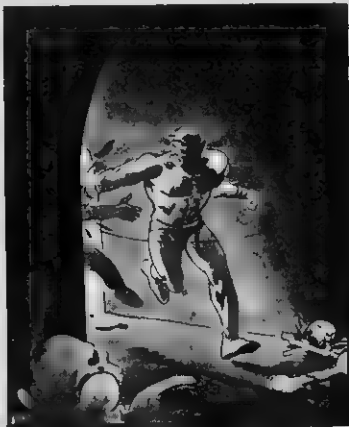


DROOLING AND GRUNTING WITH A FERVOR MORE OF ANIMALS THAN MEN, THE WILD-EYED HORDE SWEEPED FORWARD... INTO A WHIRLWIND OF FLASHING STEEL CREATED BY THE GIANT BARBARIAN.

I KNOW THOSE SHARP TEETH AND THE STENCH OF DEATH UPON THEM! THESE MIGHT ONCE HAVE BEEN MEN, BUT NOW THEY'RE **FEASTERS ON FLESH!**

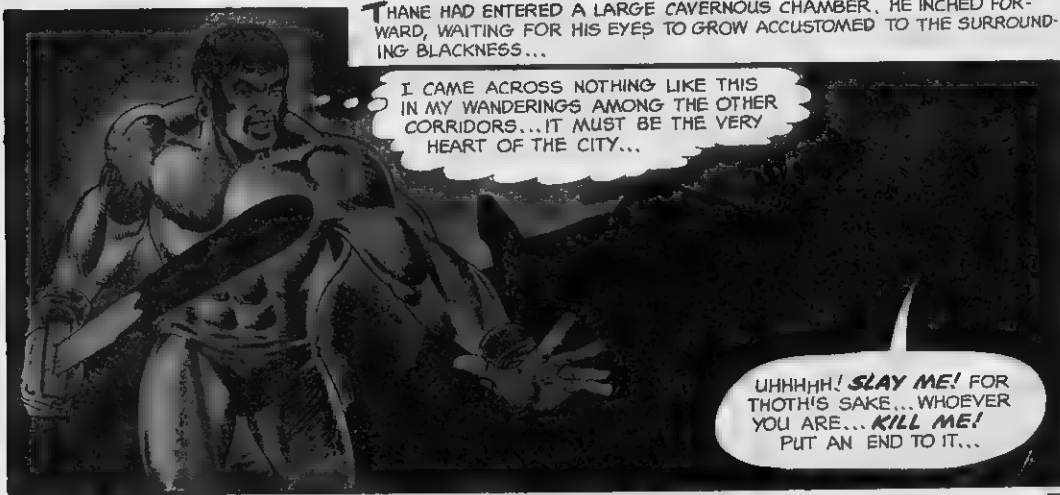


THE GHOULISH ATTACKERS SWARMED AROUND HIM! UNABLE TO DRAW BACK, THANE CHARGED FORWARD HEWING A SWATH THROUGH THEIR MIDST, UNTIL HE COULD RUN FREELY DOWN THE LARGE DARK PASSAGE FROM WHICH THEY HAD COME, LEAVING ENOUGH DEAD OR WOUNDED TO HAMPER IMMEDIATE PURSUIT!



THANE HAD ENTERED A LARGE CAVERNOUS CHAMBER. HE INCHED FORWARD, WAITING FOR HIS EYES TO GROW ACCUSTOMED TO THE SURROUNDING BLACKNESS...

I CAME ACROSS NOTHING LIKE THIS IN MY WANDERINGS AMONG THE OTHER CORRIDORS...IT MUST BE THE VERY HEART OF THE CITY...



UHHHHH! **SLAY ME!** FOR THOTH'S SAKE... WHOEVER YOU ARE... **KILL ME!** PUT AN END TO IT...



I **KNOW** THAT VOICE.  
THAT GUTTURAL WHINE!  
**ULTOR!** I FEARED THE  
GHOULISH CITIZENS OF  
**KADITH** HAD ROBBED ME OF  
THIS MOMENT... THAT YOU MIGHT  
BE DEAD.

**THANE!** YOU  
BARBARIAN SCUM...  
I WISH I WERE!  
TAKE YOUR  
REVENGE...  
**QUICKLY!**  
**KILL ME!**



IN GOOD TIME, **ULTOR**,  
OLD COMRADE FIRST  
TELL ME OF THE PLUNDER!  
WHERE IS IT? WHAT HAVE  
THEY DONE WITH IT?

FORGET THE PLUNDER  
YOU FOOL... **MAKE**  
**AN END TO ME!**  
YOU'VE LITTLE  
ENOUGH TIME TILL  
YOU AND UP  
**SAME AS ME!**

**TORCHLIGHT** SUDDENLY  
ILLUMINATED THE CHAM-  
BER, AND EVEN **THANE**'S  
HARDENED WARRIOR'S  
MIND REELED AT THE  
VISION BEFORE HIM,  
OF THE LEECHLIKE  
MASS OF WRITHING  
FLESH SUCKLING AT  
THE SHRIEKING  
SCYTHIAN'S LIFEblood,  
AS **LIVIA**'S VOICE  
ECHOED ABOUT HIM...



HE SPEAKS TRUE, MY  
BRAVE BARBARIAN: YOU'RE  
TRAPPED HERE EVEN AS  
I LEAD HIS BAND INTO  
AMBUSH IN THE RAVINE!  
WHEN HIS BLOOD EBBS,  
**YOURS** SHALL REPLACE IT!



**ULTOR**'S CARCASS SHALL BE A FEAST FOR THE  
SERVANTS OF **KADITH!** AS WAS HIS MENS', AS  
WILL **YOURS!** AND YOUR BLOOD WILL FEED THE  
LIVING ALTAR, THE MIGHTY HEART...

UNTIL IT COURSES  
THROUGH THE VERY  
WALLS OF AROUND  
US, AS HAS THE  
BLOOD OF OTHERS  
FOR CENTURIES!



...NOURISHING THE VERY  
STRUCTURE OF **KADITH**.  
**MIGHTY KADITH**,  
WHOSE WALLS ARE FLESH!  
**MIGHTY KADITH, THE**  
**LIVING CITY!**

DEMON PRIESTESS!  
A STROKE FOR  
**ULTOR**, AND THE  
NEXT FOR **YOU!**

ULTOR MOANED AS DEATH MERCIFULLY CLAIMED HIM, AND SUDDENLY THE CHAMBER WAS PLUNGED INTO BLACKNESS BEFORE THANE COULD CHARGE THE MOCKING PRIESTESS.



THERE ARE OTHERS YOUR SWORD MUST  
FIRST FACE, THANE... **THE SERVANTS  
OF KADITH!**

AS SMALL  
CARRION FISH  
FOLLOW THE  
SHARK, SO  
DO THESE  
CREATURES OF  
FOULNESS  
STALK THE  
SHADOW OF  
THIS LIVING  
MONSTROSITY!

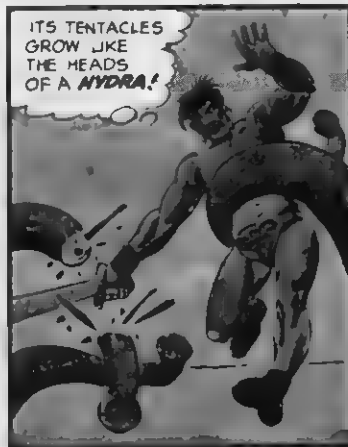
ALL THOUGHTS VANISHED, AND IN THE DARKNESS, THANE BECAME A KILLING MACHINE! BLOOD FLOWED FREELY AND THE EVER THIRSTING TENTACLES OF KADITH'S HEART SNAKED THROUGH THE CHAMBER FALLING ON WOUNDED AND DEAD.



AN ORGY OF BLOODLUST DROVE THE GREAT LIVING ENTITY THAT WAS KADITH MAD! ANY TOUCHED BY BLOOD PERISHED, AND ANY IN THE SWORDPLAY WERE TOUCHED!



THE QUIVERING OBSCENITY  
SEEKS US ALL!



ITS TENTACLES  
GROW LIKE  
THE HEADS  
OF A **HYDRA!**



BEFORE I LIE ON THAT LIVING  
ALTAR CALLED A HEART,  
YOU'LL FEEL MY SWORD,  
CITY OF BLOOD!



AS THE FLASHING BLADE WENT DOWNWARD, THANE TURNED TO THE LEFT AND THE LAST OF HIS OWN FEELERS WAS SNIPPED OFF BY THE FORCE OF HIS OWN MOVEMENT. TOWARD THE BLEAWING DARKER POINT NOW TWISTED IN HER HAND...



THE SOUND OF TERRIBLE SCREAMS FOLLOWED THANE AS HE MOVED FURTHER AND FURTHER FROM THE DARK CHAMBER AND ITS HORRORS, DETERMINEDLY EDGING THROUGH THE MAZE OF STREETS AND CORRIDORS BY TRIAL AND ERROR UNTIL BLACK SAND WAS BENEATH HIS FEET AND THE LIVING WALLS OF KADITH BEHIND HIM.



A CONVULSIVE SHUDDER SHOOK THE VERY WALLS OF THE CHAMBER, THE TENTACLE STIFFENED AND THANE WAS WRENCHED AWAY FROM THE DEEP BURIED SWORD, SENT TUMBLING INTO THE DARK...



BLASPHEMOUS BARBARIAN! MY DAGGER WILL CARVE THE WAY FOR KADITH'S ARMS!

THANE LEAPED FOR THE CURVED ENTRANCE TO THE HAMPIR ALLOWING HIMSELF ONE QUICK GLANCE BACKWARD WHERE THE HILL-VERMIN HEART HAD BEEN SENT WITH EERING FEELERS TOWARD FRESH MEAT.

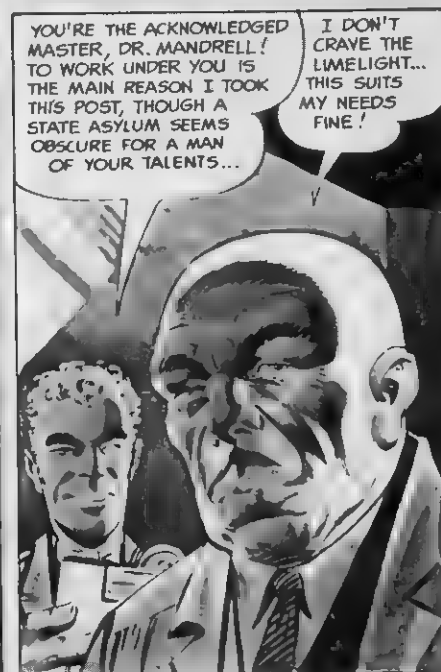


THAT'S WHAT KADITH GETS FOR SETTING UP IN SUCH A LOUSY LOCATION... A CITY SHOULD BE MORE IN THE MAINSTREAM, OR IN ITS CASE, **BLOOD-STREAM!** OH WELL, SINCE WE'VE ALREADY COVERED THE **HEART** OF THE MATTER, LET'S EXTEND A TENTACLE INTO MY NEXT YARN!

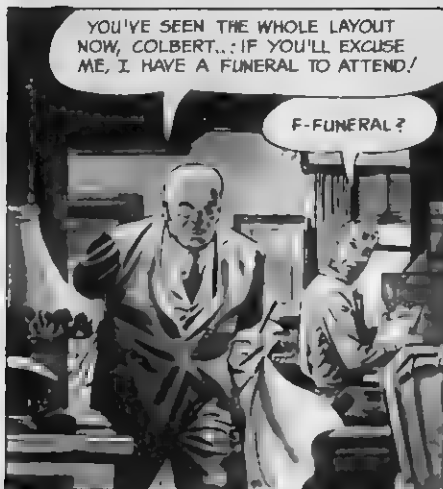


FEAST WELL, KADITH! AFTER YOUR PRIESTESS THERE WILL BE NO MORE ... EVEN A CITY CAN SHRIVEL AND DIE! CURSE YOU FOR DYING WITH MY PLUNDER IN YOUR GULLET!

# THE INCREDIBLE SHRIEKING MAN!







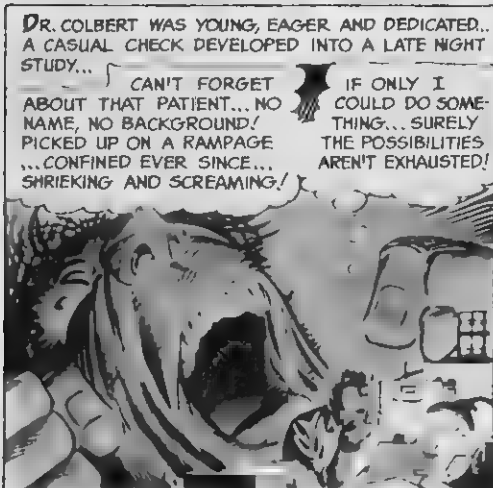
YOU'VE SEEN THE WHOLE LAYOUT NOW, COLBERT... IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I HAVE A FUNERAL TO ATTEND./

F-FUNERAL?



INMATE DIED. NO KIN. WE HAVE A POTTER'S FIELD JUST OFF THE GROUNDS... AS DIRECTOR, I HAVE TO BE THERE./

THEN, I'LL SPEND TIME WITH PATIENTS' RECORDS...



DR. COLBERT WAS YOUNG, EAGER AND DEDICATED... A CASUAL CHECK DEVELOPED INTO A LATE NIGHT STUDY...

CAN'T FORGET ABOUT THAT PATIENT... NO NAME, NO BACKGROUND! PICKED UP ON A RAMPAGE... CONFINED EVER SINCE... SHRIEKING AND SCREAMING!

IF ONLY I COULD DO SOMETHING... SURELY THE POSSIBILITIES AREN'T EXHAUSTED!



WHEW! I CAN USE A BREAK...



LORD! WHAT'S THAT?



SOMEONE'S PROWLING AROUND DOWN THERE!

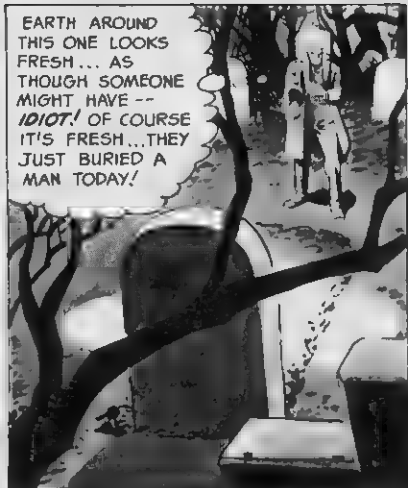


DRIVING CURIOSITY HAD PUSHED COLBERT TOWARD SUCCESS AT A YOUNG AGE... IT OUTWEIGHED ANY OTHER EMOTION... EVEN **FEAR!**

WHOEVER IT WAS SEEMS TO BE GONE NOW... WHAT THE DEVIL WERE THEY DOING HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?



EARTH AROUND  
THIS ONE LOOKS  
FRESH... AS  
THOUGH SOMEONE  
MIGHT HAVE --  
**IDIOT!** OF COURSE  
IT'S FRESH... THEY  
JUST BURIED A  
MAN TODAY!



SUPPRESSING A FEELING OF  
FOOLISHNESS, COLBERT TURNED  
IN THE CHILL NIGHT AIR AND  
STARTED BACK...

LOOKS LIKE  
A LIGHT AT MANDRELL'S  
PLACE... LONG AS HE'S  
UP, MAYBE I'LL CHECK  
WITH HIM...



A LIGHT FROST MADE  
THE GRASS CRUNCHED  
UNDERFOOT... NIGHT  
NOISES SEEMED TO  
HAVE CEASED...



THEN...

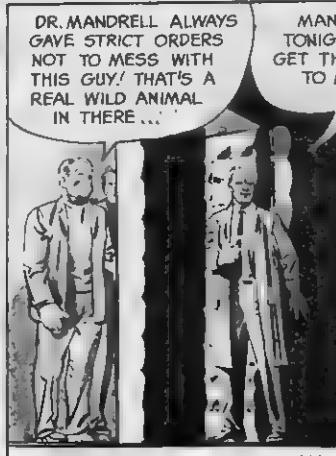
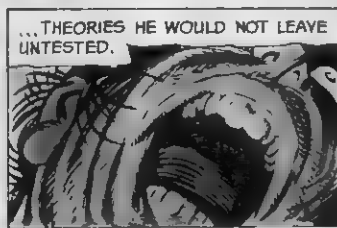
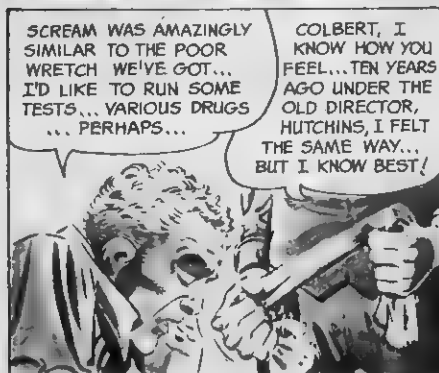


THE UNDERBRUSH BECAME ALIVE WITH THE  
SNAPPING OF TWIGS AND BRANCHES... SOME-  
THING WAS RUSHING TOWARD COLBERT... WITH  
SPEED AND FRENZY!



COLBERT'S KNEES BUCKLED, HIS BODY SAGGED... THE  
SCREAMING HORROR FROM THE SHADOWS SLASHED AND CLAWED  
AT HIM LIKE SOME CRAZED ANIMAL. HE WAS GOING UNDER...



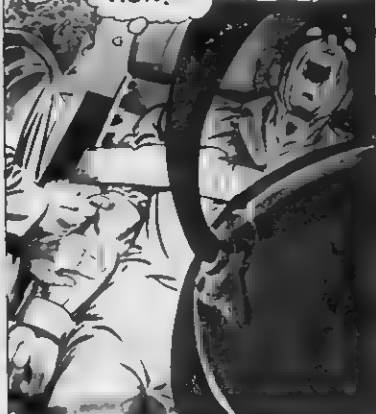


THE MANIAC WAS UNCONTROLLABLE... NEARLY AN HOUR HAD PASSED BEFORE THE MAN WAS STRAPPED DOWN IN THE LAB... HIS HORRENDOUS CRIES RINGING IN COLBERT'S EARS AS HE PREPARED THE INJECTION...

NO RECORD THAT MANDRELL EVER TRIED THE LSH-90... IT'S POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE... ALMOST STANDARD IN EXTREME CASES...



... WHY HASN'T HE USED IT? IF WE'RE EVER GOING TO KNOW, IT'LL BE ... NOW!



THE WRITHING AND SCREAMING STOPPED... THE TORTURED FACE SOFTENED... THE WILD GLAZE OF THE EYES MOMENTARILY FADED...

MANDRELL! FOR GOD'S SAKE... DON'T! IT'S MURDER... IT'S--

IT'S WORKING!  
BUT WHAT...

THE MOMENT OF LUCIDITY FADED AS QUICKLY AS THE DRUG ITSELF ON THE RAGING, STRAINING HULK...



THE VIOLENT WAVE OF ANIMAL-MADNESS SURGED OVER COLBERT, DRAGGING HIM DOWN...



... LEAVING A WAKE OF DESTRUCTION!

HE'S ESCAPED! LORD... WHAT HAVE I DONE! WHY DIDN'T I LISTEN TO MANDRELL...



ONE PAIN-WRACKED STEP AFTER THE OTHER, COLBERT WILLIED HIS FEET ACROSS THE GROUND...

MAYBE HE'S BACK...

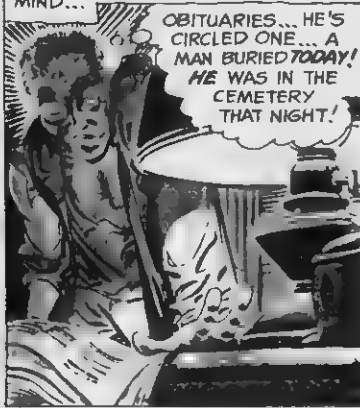


GOT TO WARN HIM... WHY'D HE HAVE TO GO INTO TOWN TONIGHT...



INSIDE, THE HOUSE WAS EMPTY AND SILENT... EXCEPT FOR A SLIGHT BUZZING IN THE BACK OF COLBERT'S MIND...

OBITUARIES... HE'S CIRCLED ONE... A MAN BURIED TODAY! HE WAS IN THE CEMETERY THAT NIGHT!



THE TRACE OF A SOUND CAME FROM THE BASEMENT... COLBERT STAGGERED DOWNWARD, SOMEHOW EXPECTING WHAT HE WAS TO FIND...

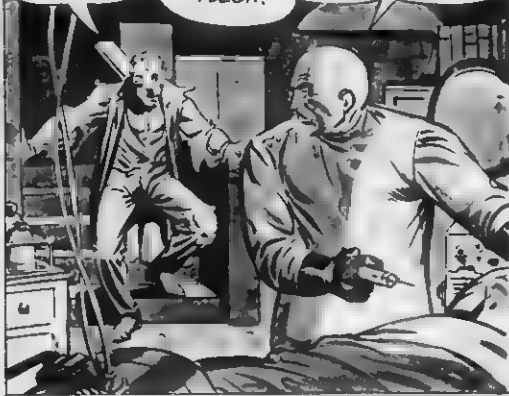
GHOU! ARE THESE THE KIND OF EXPERIMENTS YOU CONDUCT?

COLBERT! YOU PRYING FOOL!



INFLECTING TORMENT ON THE DEAD...

YOU TOY WITH DRUGS TO FREE MINDS... I PERFECT A SERUM TO RESTORE LIFE! REANIMATE DEAD FLESH!



LIFE? YOU CALL THOSE SHRIeking TORTURED THINGS LIFE? THEY WANT THE PEACE OF THE GRAVE! THEY FIGHT TO GET BACK TO IT! LIKE THAT FRENZIED SOUL IN THE PADDED CELL FOR 10 YEARS!

YOU MEAN HUTCHINS? MY FORMER SUPERIOR... MY STUPID EMPLOYER... MY GREATEST SUCCESS...

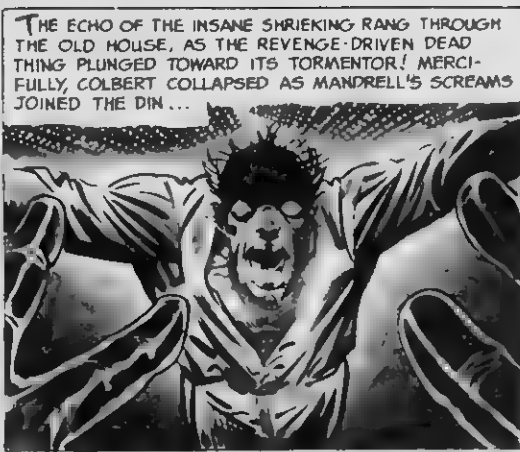


HE OUTLIVED THE OTHERS... THE SOONER YOU INJECT THE SERUM THE BETTER, SINCE I KILLED HIM, HE WAS MUCH HANDIER! JUST AS YOU'LL BE, COLBERT! YOU MAY EVEN SHARE THE SAME PADDED CELL!

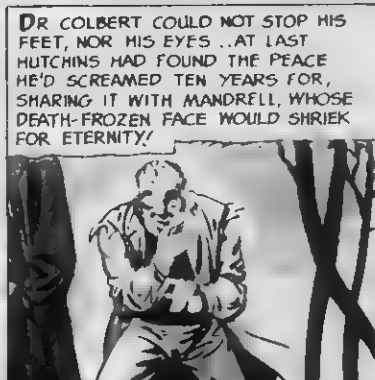
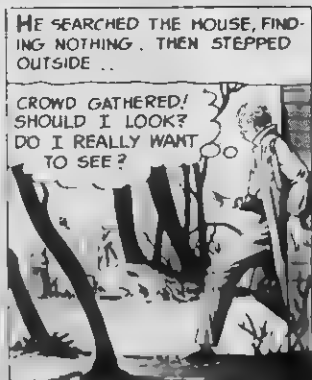
HUTCHINS' BEEN OUT OF THE CELL FOR SOME TIME, MANDRELL...







THE ECHO OF THE INSANE SHRIEKING RANG THROUGH THE OLD HOUSE, AS THE REVENGE-DRIVEN DEAD THING PLUNGED TOWARD ITS TORMENTOR! MERCIFULLY, COLBERT COLLAPSED AS MANDRELL'S SCREAMS JOINED THE DIN...



A STREAM OF SUNLIGHT ON HIS FACE CAUSED COLBERT TO STIR...

HE SEARCHED THE HOUSE, FINDING NOTHING. THEN STEPPED OUTSIDE...

MORNING. WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?

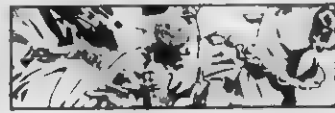
CROWD GATHERED! SHOULD I LOOK? DO I REALLY WANT TO SEE?

DR COLBERT COULD NOT STOP HIS FEET, NOR HIS EYES... AT LAST HUTCHINS HAD FOUND THE PEACE HE'D SCREAMED TEN YEARS FOR, SHARING IT WITH MANDRELL, WHOSE DEATH-FROZEN FACE WOULD SHRIEK FOR ETERNITY!



**REACH FOR CREEPY!**

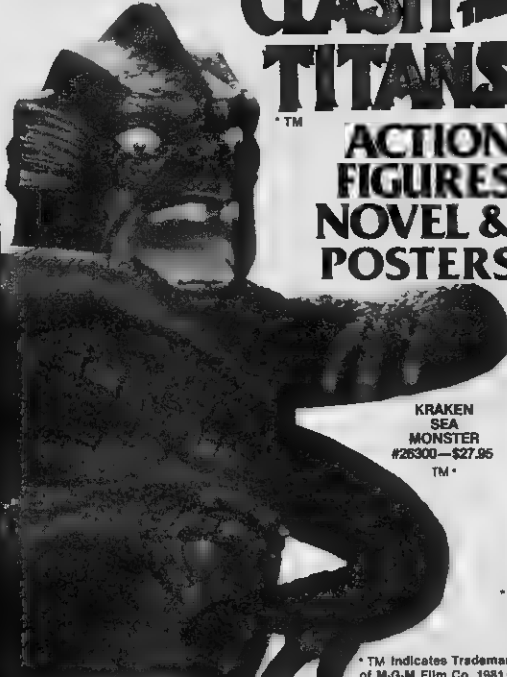
**CREEPY #142! THE ART OF ANGELO TORRES!**



# CLASH OF THE TITANS

TM

## ACTION FIGURES NOVEL & POSTERS



**KRAKEN SEA MONSTER**  
#26300—\$27.95  
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Let your imagination soar into man's mythic past with these stunning action figures! Kraken, the monster from the sea, looms a huge 14 1/2" high! He is detailed with green skin and red mouth & eyes! The Kraken has four movable arms and a movable tail! Calibos, Thallo & Perseus are all colorfully painted & detailed, with movable arms, heads & removable weapons!



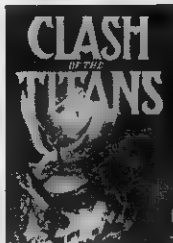
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# Warren Publishing Co. Proudly Presents

## Genuine Soil from Dracula's Castle

Authentic Soil from Vlad's Castle in Transylvania

DUST from DRACULA'S DOMAIN, Actual Earth (Guaranteed Authentic) from the Crumbling Ruins of the Legendary Vlad, the Mad Monarch who generations ago terrorized Transylvanians and inspired Bram Stoker to create the famous masterpiece of vampirism, DRACULA. There are 3 billion people on this planet but only 5,000 can wear this incredible creation. A shilling, ornately wrought, beautiful piece of art in itself, the pendant is made with the very same soil to heart of the matter.

**ONLY \$9.95**

**One Gram of Soil in Each Amulet**

From the gold-plated chain is suspended a transparent miniature coffin containing one gram of genuine earth from the exact place where Vlad (Dracula) once made macabre history. No vampire could resist the amulet, and yet—who could fail to feel a tingling up and down the spine when viewing oneself in a mirror observing this rare soil lying close to one's heart? What vampire lover could fail to feel special—as he or she sees envy in the eyes of a fellow vampire and fortune enough to own one of Vlad's Pendants? What Draculan disciple would not know a sense of supernatural power when wearing this unusual object?

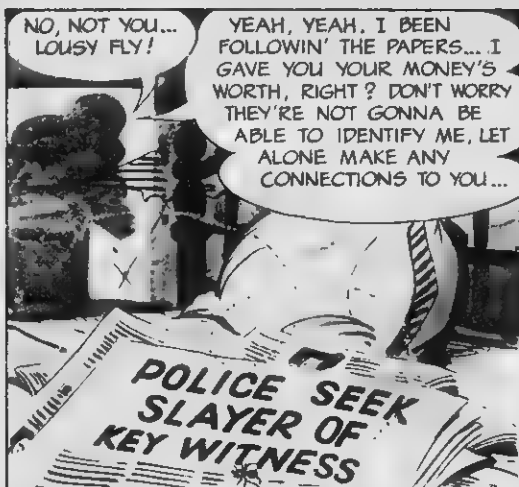
**of Authenticity**

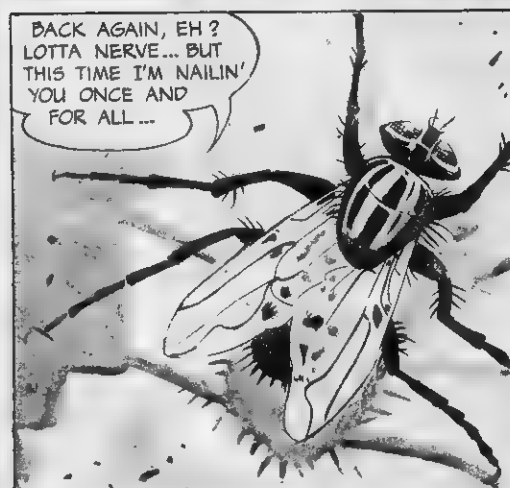
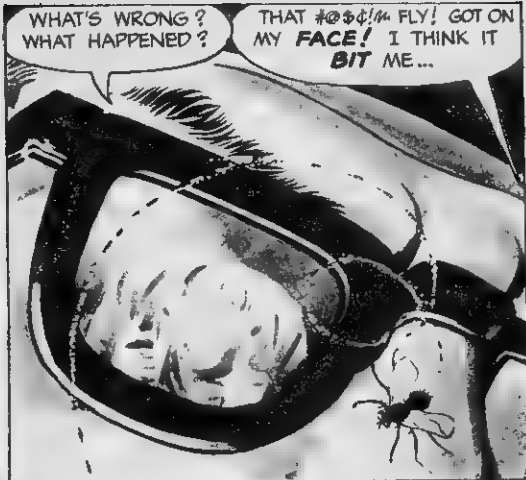
Each pendant is \$9.95 and comes with a Certificate of Authentication. This is not a gag, not a spoof, not a put-on. The soil in this unique pendant actually came from the Castle Dracula, ruins of Romania—where Bram Stoker's hero Jonathan Harker discovered the fascinating and extraordinary secrets of Count Dracula and the mysterious Vampires. Encased in clear plastic, artistically secured on a golden chain, this Dust of Dracula can now be preserved through all times to come. Shilling with YOU. Sorry, orders are limited; no more than 3 to a customer.

**A Fascinating Memento of the Greatest Horror Story ever told. Order Yours Now!**

# THE FLY!

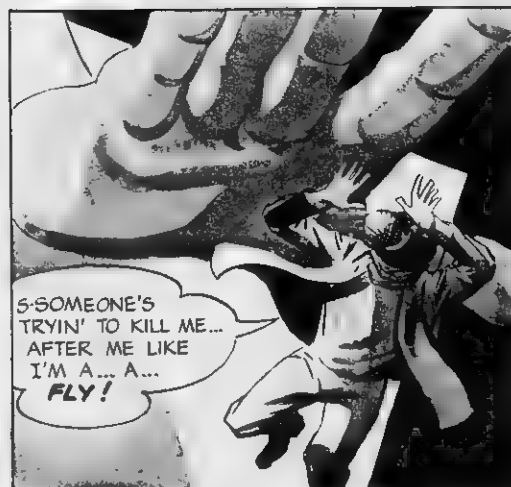














NINE STORIES DOWN  
TO SOLID CONCRETE!  
WHAT MADE HIM  
JUMP?!

OTHER TENANTS SAY  
HE'D BEEN SHOUTING  
AND SCREAMING ALL  
EVENING... JUDGING  
FROM THE BANDAGES, HE  
MUSTA JUST HAD AN  
OPERATION... MAYBE  
THAT DROVE HIM TO  
IT...



NOT A PRETTY SIGHT...  
IMPACT SQUASHED HIM  
LIKE A FLY!

FUNNY YOU SHOULD  
SAY THAT...



LOOK AT THIS...  
HE MUSTA BEEN TEAR-  
IN' AT THE BANDAGES  
AS HE FELL...



...FLY WAS LODGED IN HIS EAR, TRAPPED  
BY THE BANDAGE... BET IT'S BUZZING WAS  
NEARLY ENOUGH TO DRIVE HIM TO JUMP!



SO, OUR KOOKY  
KILLER ONLY DREAM-  
ED HE KILLED THE  
FLY, AND OF COURSE,  
GOT MUCH TOO  
**WRAPPED** UP IN  
HIS DREAM... IN FACT,  
HE WAS VERY **HARD**  
**HIT** BY THE WHOLE  
THING! WELL, THAT'S  
THE WAY THE FLY  
FLITS... NOW WHY  
DON'T YOU FLIT TO  
MY NEXT GORY  
STORY!





## TWIKI SIGNAL FLASHER! THE INCREDIBLE ROBOT FIGURINE FROM DUCK ROGERS!

**TWIKI SIGNAL FLASHER:** No space adventurer will want to venture forth without the official Twiki Signal Flasher! This durable plastic figurine of the lovable robot from the Duck Rogers TV series stands a full 9" tall in striking silver! Included also is a sound and light signal! The colorful Dr. Theophile flight wheel revolves at your command, activated by the sonic clicker on Twiki's tummy! Secret codes system included on his back! Batteries not included! #26270—\$8.75



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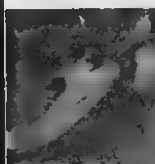
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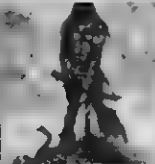
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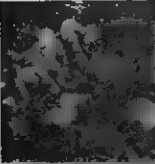
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### CONAN

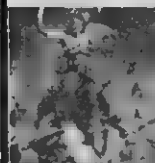
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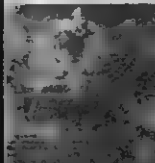
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**INVINCIBLE:** A new Conan adventure published for the first time in '82! 288 pp., #21444—\$2.95

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**PROLOGUE:** "THE OLDEST LEGENDS OF MANY CULTURES GIVE VEILED HINTS OF A TIME IN PREHISTORY WHEN UNSPEAKABLE HORDES OF EVIL MADE WAR ON THE FORCES OF GOOD, AND THE WEAPONS THEY USED WERE MANY AND TERRIBLE..."



"SUCH WAS THE SWORD PROFESSOR BRACE UNEARTHED IN OUR ANDES EXPEDITION. FEW EXPERTS WOULD WILLINGLY ADMIT THIS, EVEN I, HIS MOST AVID DISCIPLE, HAD MY DOUBTS... YET NONE COULD EXPLAIN ITS AGE OR THE STRANGENESS OF ITS METAL..."



"IT, AND OTHER ITEMS UNCOVERED BY OUR MUSEUM-SPONSORED EXCAVATION, OPENED FANTASTIC BYWAYS AND AREAS OF SPECULATION TO THE EARTH'S PAST. BUT NO ONE, NOT EVEN BRACE, UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE, GUESSED THE PATH OF HORROR IT WOULD CUT THROUGH THE PRESENT."





NOW THAT YOU'VE HACKED  
YOUR WAY THROUGH OUR  
ENTRANCING INTRO, FIENDISH  
FOLLOWERS, GET SET FOR  
THE NEXT LITTLE SLICE  
OF LIFE ABOUT TO BE  
CARVED BY THE...



# DEMON SWORD!

"DAWN'S GREY HOURS  
WERE GIVING WAY TO  
THE FULL LIGHT OF DAY  
WHEN I HEARD FROM  
THE MUSEUM OF THE  
NIGHT'S MONSTROSITY.  
MY IMMEDIATE REACTION  
WAS TO RUSH TO THE  
PROFESSOR'S HOME...

PROFESSOR BRACE! THE  
SWORD'S BEEN STOLEN!  
A GUARD MURDERED...

THANK GOD,  
YOU'VE COME,  
HARCOURT. I'VE  
BEEN TRYING TO  
REACH YOU...







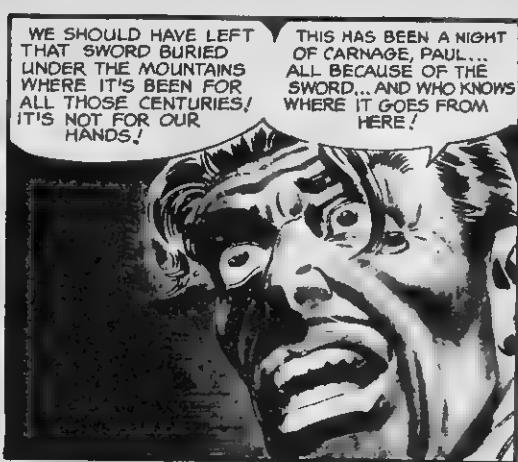
WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT, SIR? WHY?!

BETTER TAKE A BRANDY, I THINK YOU'LL NEED IT. THE MUSEUM'S JUST GIVEN ME SOME MORE NEWS...

"AS CLOSELY AS CAN BE DETERMINED, SOME FEW MINUTES AFTER THE SWORD HAD BEEN STOLEN, MILES AWAY, ARTHUR CARNABY, THE MUSEUM'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WAS WORKING LATE. HIS BUTLER WAS BRINGING UP A SNACK WHEN SCREAMS FROM CARNABY'S STUDY FILLED THE HOUSE..."



"THEY LIVED TO WISH THEY HAD NEVER GONE INTO THE ROOM. CARNABY WAS SLAUGHTERED WITH THE STOLEN SWORD, AND ITS HIDEOUS WIELDER ESCAPED, STEPPING THROUGH THE VERY WALLS!"

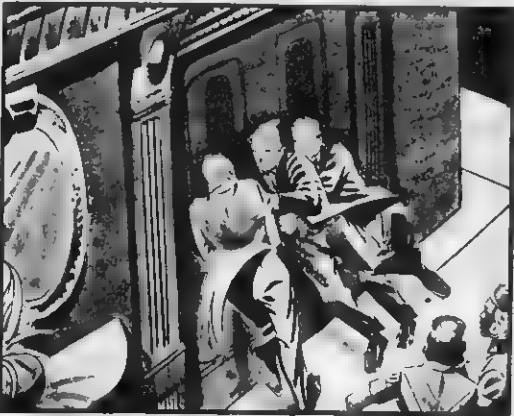


WE SHOULD HAVE LEFT THAT SWORD BURIED UNDER THE MOUNTAINS WHERE IT'S BEEN FOR ALL THOSE CENTURIES! IT'S NOT FOR OUR HANDS!

THIS HAS BEEN A NIGHT OF CARNAGE, PAUL... ALL BECAUSE OF THE SWORD... AND WHO KNOWS WHERE IT GOES FROM HERE!

"AND IN HESITANT TORTURED WORDS, PROFESSOR BRACE TOLD ME WHAT HE KNEW..."

"THE STUDY DOOR WAS LOCKED AND THE SOUNDS FROM WITHIN GREW IN VOLUME AND TERROR. THE BUTLER AND ANOTHER SERVANT FRANTICALLY BATTERED AT THE DOOR UNTIL AT LAST IT GAVE WAY..."



"MEANWHILE, NO MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES LATER, LYMAN WALKER, DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM, HAVING BEEN INFORMED OF THE GUARD'S MURDER, WAS BEING DRIVEN BACK TO THE CITY..."



"SEEMINGLY FROM NOWHERE, A TERRIFYING FIGURE LOOMED UP IN THE GLARE OF THE CAR'S HEADLIGHTS ... INSTINCTIVELY, THE STUNNED CHAUFFEUR SWERVED, SENDING THE CAR CAREENING FROM THE HIGHWAY..."



"ACCORDING TO THE CHAUFFEUR'S DYING STATEMENT, HE CAME TO AFTER THE WRECK TO FIND THAT WALKER HAD BEEN THROWN CLEAR... ONLY TO LIE HELPLESS UNDER THE FLASHING BLADE OF A HELLISH, DEMONIC THING! THE MAN DIED STILL TRYING TO ADEQUATELY DESCRIBE THE HORROR OF THE CREATURE..."



"PROFESSOR BRACE STOPPED TALKING AND A LONG MOMENT OF SILENCE ELAPSED AS I DESPERATELY SOUGHT AFTER SOMETHING TO SAY..."

WELL... WITH BOTH DEAD, THE MUSEUM WOULD NEED A DIRECTOR ... AND NEXT IN LINE WOULD BE ... WOULD BE...

WOULD BE ME! RIGHT, PAUL?

B-BUT...IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! EVEN ASSUMING A CURSE COULD ACTUALLY BE ON THE WEAPON... WHY SHOULD TWO PEOPLE NOT INVOLVED IN UNEARTHING THE SWORD BE SLAIN?

THINK ABOUT IT, PAUL...WHO WOULD STAND TO **GAIN** WITH WALKER AND CARNABY DEAD?



LORD, PROFESSOR! YOU CAN'T BELIEVE THERE'S ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THAT **CREATURE** AND... **Y-YOURSELF?**

THERE'S EVIL IN ANY MAN, PAUL. SUPPOSE, LATENT WITHIN THE SWORD, IS THE POWER TO DRAW EVIL OUT OF ITS OWNER... TO **PERSONIFY** IT!

"BRACE WHEELED ABRUPTLY AND LEAD ME DOWNSTAIRS TO HIS WORKROOM..."

Y-YOU ACTUALLY THINK THE SWORD MAGNIFIES THE EVIL WITHIN A MAN... MOLDS IT INTO SOME KIND OF **LIVING CREATURE?**

I'M THE ONE WHO FOUND IT, PAUL, HANDLED IT... SINCE TURNING IT OVER TO THE MUSEUM, YOU CAN'T IMAGINE THE RESTLESSNESS I'VE FELT... THE NIGHTS OF TROUBLED SLEEP..

"OVER THE YEARS, BRACE HAD BUILT UP A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION. HIS WORKROOM WAS A SMALL MUSEUM IN ITSELF..."

A RESTLESS NIGHT DOESN'T MEAN THE DARK SIDE OF YOUR NATURE IS ON A KILLING RAMPAGE! YOU'VE PROBABLY JUST BEEN WORKING TOO HARD!

LAST NIGHT I WAS UP TRYING TO DECIPHER THOSE TABLETS WE FOUND BURIED WITH THE SWORD IN THE ANDES... I FELL ASLEEP OVER THEM!

IT WASN'T A PLEASANT SLEEP, BUT I COULDN'T SEEM TO WAKE UP WHEN I FINALLY DID, THERE WAS AN ADDITION TO THE TABLETS, AS YOU CAN SEE, PAUL...

THOSE SPOTS... IT'S **BLOOD!**

"THE DEEP CRIMSON STAINS FORMED A TRAIL LEADING OFF THE TABLE. MY GAZE RACE OVER IT TO..."

"I TURNED TO FIND THE PROFESSOR TAKING DOWN SOME ARMOR FROM THE WALL..."

... **THE DEMON SWORD!** B-BUT IF IT'S HERE... THEN EVERYTHING YOU TOLD ME MUST BE...

...**TRUE, PAUL!** ALL TRUE!

B-BUT IF THAT THING'S WITHIN YOU... PART OF YOU... HOW... WHAT CAN YOU DO?

**FIGHT** IT, PAUL! ON ITS OWN TERMS!

"BRACE THEN SAT DOWN, CLUTCHING ARMS AND ARMOR TO HIM..."

THE SWORD DRAWS FORTH THE EVIL WHILE I'M ASLEEP, WHEN MY CONSCIOUSNESS CAN'T RALLY MY GOOD SIDE TO FIGHT IT... BUT IF I COULD STILL RETAIN MY CONSCIOUSNESS WHILE ASLEEP, OR AT LEAST BE SUGGESTIBLE TO USING MY GOOD SIDE...

A HYPNOTIC TRANCE! WITH ME TO CONTROL YOU, IT COULD BE DONE IN A HYPNOTIC TRANCE!

"HARDLY HAD THE TRANCE TAKEN EFFECT THAN THE SWORD BEGAN TO GLOW WITH AN UNEARTHLY LIGHT... AND OUT OF PROFESSOR BRACE'S BODY, A THING OF UNSPEAKABLE EVIL LEAPED FORWARD TO SEIZE IT!"

"WE HAD BOTH PLAYED WITH HYPNOTISM FOR OUR OWN AMUSEMENT, BUT NOW WE BEGAN IN DEADLY EARNEST NOT KNOWING FOR CERTAIN WHAT FORCES WE MIGHT RELEASE, FOR WHAT ENDS!"

YOU ARE GROWING TIRED... VERY TIRED... DRIFTING INTO A DEEP SLUMBER...

HE'LL BE OPEN TO SUGGESTION FROM ME... GOD HELP US IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH AGAINST THE SWORD'S POWER!

"AND IN ANSWER TO MY CRIES, ANOTHER FIGURE APPEARED, ASSUMING THE ARMOR BRACE HAD LEFT IN PREPARATION..."

PROFESSOR! THERE'S EVIL IN THIS ROOM... YOUR EVIL! BUT WITHIN YOU IS GREAT GOOD... USE IT...

FIGHT, PROFESSOR, FIGHT!!

"SO IT BEGAN... THE GOOD AND EVIL OF A MAN LOCKED IN MORTAL COMBAT, SWIRLING AND FIGHTING... SOMETIMES IN THE ROOM, SOMETIMES IN PHANTOM DIMENSIONS CRISS-CROSSING OUR OWN WORLD THROUGH WHICH CREATURES LIKE THESE COULD STALK AT WILL..."

"THERE WAS FAR MORE GOOD THAN EVIL IN THE PROFESSOR, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN STRONGER...BUT THERE WAS NO WAY TO ESTIMATE THE POWER OF THAT HELLISH SWORD."



"MOST OF THE TIME I COULD NOT SEE THE COMBATANTS AS THEY FOUGHT IN OTHER DIMENSIONS, OTHER WORLDS... BUT I COULD SEE BRACE'S TORMENTED FACE... AND I KNEW WE WERE LOSING..."



**PROFESSOR! DON'T WEAKEN!  
YOU CAN'T GIVE UP... YOU CAN'T!  
I'M WITH YOU... YOU CAN DO  
IT! YOU MUST!!**

"MY VOICE GREW HOARSE WITH STRAIN AS I RAGED TO KEEP HIM GOING... TEARS OF EFFORT ROLLED DOWN THE PROFESSOR'S FACE, RED AND SWOLLEN IN THE LAST DITCH STAND AGAINST THE SWORD'S PRIMORDIAL EVIL..."



"THEN FROM THE SHADOW WORLD BATTLEGROUND CAME AN UNHUMAN SHRIEK THAT ENDED AS A CRY OF PAIN IN PROFESSOR BRACE'S THROAT..."



"HE SLID TO THE FLOOR AND FOR THE FIRST TIME I NOTICED EACH WOUND OF THE BATTLE WAS UPON HIM. HIS BREATH CAME IN GASPS, BUT HIS FACE WAS SOMEHOW RELAXED..."



"AND, EYES FIXED ON THE THING THAT HAD WROUGHT HIS DESTRUCTION, PROFESSOR BRACE DIED."

"NOW I STAND IN FRONT OF THE FURNACE, FLAMES STOKED WHITE HOT TO MELT EVEN THE DEMON METAL OF OF THIS SWORD I HOLD, AND YET I HESITATE... I HOLD IT AND WONDER AT THE POWER I FEEL, THE PLEASURE IN HANDLING IT. IF I DON'T DESTROY IT THIS MINUTE, I CAN ALWAYS DO IT THE NEXT... OR CAN I?"



ALL YOU, WRITHING READERS, WITH SPORTING BLOOD CAN STAY HERE AND MAKE BETS, BUT I SUGGEST THE REST OF YOU MOVE ON... JUST IN CASE HARCOURT DECIDES TO KEEP THE SWORD."





# FANTASY POSTERS!

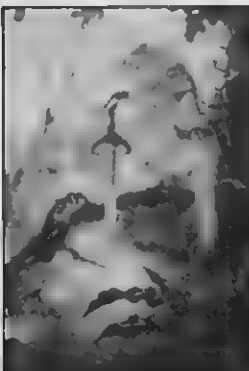
These breathtakingly colored posters will kick your imagination into high gear! "Girl with White Beast" & "She of the Sword" show just why the Brothers Hildebrandt are fast gaining recognition as the world's premiere artists of the fantastic! And wait until you see the chilling rendering of "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" by Carlos Norie! Each poster measures a full 2 feet by 3 feet!



**THE FOUR HORSEMEN**  
by Carlos Norie  
#28050-\$3.50

**GIRL WITH WHITE BEAST**  
by the Bros. Hildebrandt  
#28052-\$3.50

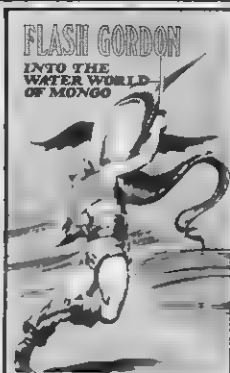
**SHE OF THE SWORD**  
by the Bros. Hildebrandt  
#28051-\$3.50



# FLASH GORDON IS OUT OF THIS WORLD!



**THE PLANET MONGO** Flash Gordon swooshbuckles across outer-space in Alex Raymond's original full color strip reprinted here in a 9"x12" hardcover format. Relive the heroic adventures of America's original astronaut. Contents include "World in Danger", "Triumph of Zerkov", "Kingdom of the Falcon Men", "Conquest of the Kingdom" and "World of the Cavemen!" #21175-\$14.95

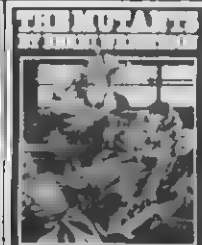


**INTO THE WATER WORLD OF MONGO** In volume 2 Flash is transformed into one of Mongo's fishermen in an effort to save his life! Contents include "The Worlds of the Caverns" and "The Underwater World". Read Flash's exciting adventures as drawn by the hand of master illustrator Alex Raymond. Hardcover, 9"x12" format on high quality stock in full color! #21176-\$14.95

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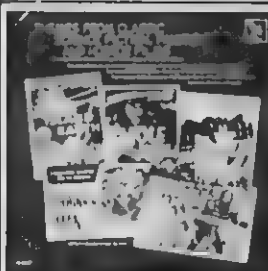


**APPARITIONS:** A quartet of Wrightson's most stirring fantasy illustrations are reproduced in this high-quality set of full-color 11x14 inch prints. These superb plates depict scenes of nightmarish sci-fi horror and gripping conflict in Berni Wrightson's own inimitable style. All four prints are suitable for framing and display! #28045-\$7.95



**THE MUTANTS:** A fascinating collection of macabre stories and illustrations by the great Berni Wrightson! 17 pages of his best recent work are also included! #21435-\$9.95

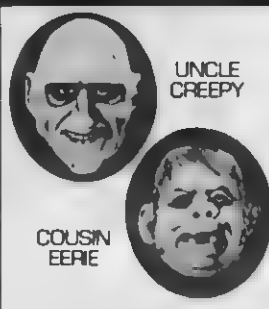
## CLASSIC FILM THEMES



### Science Fiction, Horror and Fantasy

A long playing stereo record of some of the greatest themes from SF horror and fantasy movies! Included are "This Island Earth," "Creature from the Black Lagoon" and many more! #23001/\$7.98

## SPECIAL CREEPY & EERIE MASKS



### FABULOUS BUDGET MASKS

Both of these budget masks represented to the left, are made of sturdy, heavy-duty vinyl. Both the CREEPY and the EERIE masks will cover your entire head. Each one is a real bargain. You and your friends can hold CREEPY and EERIE parties with these incredible masks. Wouldn't you like to look just like your fiendish pals from your favorite comic magazines? Well, here's your chance!

CREEPY vinyl mask #2586-\$8.95

EERIE vinyl mask #2587-\$8.95

# IRON-ON



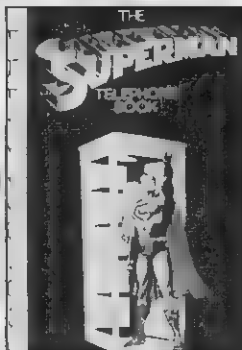
SUPERMAN SYMBOL #26142—\$1.50

# SUPERMAN

UP, UP and AWAY with SOME of SUPERMAN'S FAVORITE THINGS!



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23"x25"  
#29012—\$2.50  
Superman from New York artist Stavinos!



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**SUPERMAN COMIC PAPERBACK** 5 memorable adventures including the complete story of his life & more!  
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## A Super Selection for Superman Collectors

## ACTION FIGURES

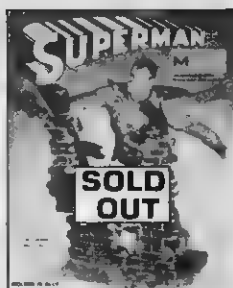


**SUPERMAN**  
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**GENERAL ZOD**  
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**LEX LUTHOR**  
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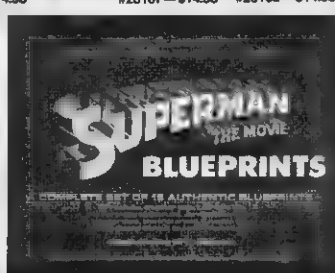
**JOR-EL**  
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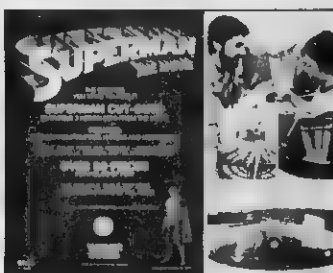
**SUPERMAN MODEL KIT:** Superman stands 9" high in this dynamic model kit as he bashes in a wall! Order!  
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**SUPERMAN PORTFOLIO** 12 fabulous paintings of the scenes and sets from the Superman movie. 11"x14", finest stock paper in full color and suitable for framing!  
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**SUPERMAN CUT-OUTS:** Three action packed, 11"x14" scenes from the movie, of Krypton, Kansas and Metropolis. Just cut, color, paste and assemble for hours of fun!  
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To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.



**HAN SOLO AT STARTS END**  
Solo's epic adventure fighting imperial authority on Orton III!  
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**HAN SOLO'S REVENGE**  
Han is framed as a slave-trader and the punishment is death!  
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**EMPIRE STRIKES BACK**  
Den Glut's brilliant novelization of the action-packed movie!  
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**EMPIRE STRIKES BACK**  
This is the incredible fully illustrated, full color book of the movie!  
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## RICHARD CORBEN Flights into Fantasy by Fershid Bharucha

A magnificent tribute to one of the world's greatest comic book artists! Over 200 full-color pages, including 80 in full Corben color! Included are some of his earliest work, published here for the first time, plus his most recent drawings and paintings, a representative sampling of Corben's least and best known work in the fields of comics, animation, painting and sculpture! Fans of this astounding craftsman will drool over the gallery of more than 40 full-color full-page paintings from books and magazine covers, album jackets and movie posters! Plus biographical info and commentary by comics pros! A must for the Corben completist! #21441—\$21.95



## SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURE PAPERBACK! OUTLAND FROM THE CREATORS OF ALIEN!

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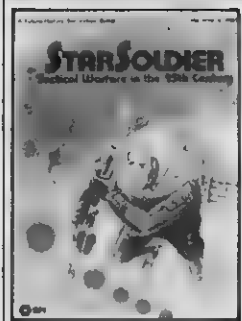
## COMIC ART BOOKS!

For over a decade, millions have thrilled to the highly imaginative style of these legendary comic illustrators! Now you can experience their work in this exciting portfolio format! Included in the 32-page Neal Adams volume are political cartoons, advertising art and full-length stories of Dracula, Frankenstein and The Werewolf! Also 32 pages, the John Buscema book is in an illustrated interview format and features a dramatic wrap-around cover! The 64-page John Byrne book features an interview and a checklist, along with a color portrait of the Marvel heroes and many sketches! All covers in breathtaking color! You'll treasure each superb volume!

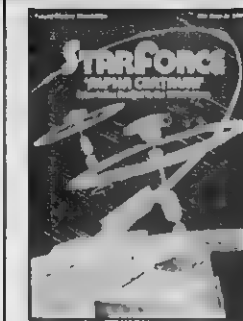
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- JOHN BUSCEMA #21430—\$3.00
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# STAR WARS INTERSTELLAR BATTLES AT YOUR COMMAND IN THESE EXCITING GAMES OF STRATEGY AND CHANCE



**STAR FIGHTER GAME.** Interstellar hand to hand combat on alien planets in the 25th century! Game is complete with board, playing cards and instructions. You are the master strategist in this subtle and exciting game! #29098—\$8.00



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VULCAN MASTER™  
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## LIFELIKE MASKS!

It's only logical to order the deluxe MR. SPOCK mask of durable latex (sorry, no Vulcanized rubber) with wool hair and eyebrows! And no star fleet commander will invade your space when you wear the KLINGON WARRIOR mask gruesomely detailed with yak hair and bone-studded scalp! But there's no hair to hide the pointy ears of the VULCAN MASTER... a face so convincing that friends will shun you for fear of the Vulcan death grip! Each professional-quality latex mask is realistically colored and fully detailed!



## HOBBY KIT HEAVEN!

You'll want to order a whole star fleet of these fantastic model kits! The ENTERPRISE is a full 22" long, with working saucer control lights! The VULCAN CRUISER has a detachable passenger module! The KLINGON BATTLE CRUISER is 16" long! MR. SPOCK stands over 6" tall! All kits with display base and vehicles feature dry transfer & prismatic effect rainbow decal! ENTERPRISE #24247/\$14.50 KLINGON #24251/\$6.25 VULCAN #24250/\$6.25 MR SPOCK #24249/\$4.50



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## EXCITING LP's!



Federation tracks will hail these full-length adventures as the hottest thing since Vulcan ear-muffs! A Mirror For Folly, "The Time Stealer," "Logistics of Stampede" and "To Survive a Planet" all on a high-quality 33 1/3 RPM disc! Warning: do not play at Romulan sock-hops! STAR TREK LP #2391/\$2.98



The crew of the Enterprise is in a trio of exciting adventures on a long-playing 33 1/3 RPM disc! You'll be on the edge of your seat for "Passage to Mousu," weep for "The Crier in Emptiness," and drink in "In Vain Veritas!" High-quality recordings, with no "warp factor!" STAR TREK LP #2378/\$2.98



An ideal way to get into Star Trek and your own star studded dreamland! A go anywhere bag with reversible pull tabs and separating zippers! Lots of fluffy synthetic fiber-fill for warmth without weight! Drawstring and see-thru vinyl tote bag! Covered with colorful action scenes from the Star Trek series! Don't sleep on it...order now! #26057/\$23.95



RECORD AND BOOK SETS. Each features a superbly illustrated 20-page comic book and a 45 RPM record! Specify either #2376 "Passage to Mousu" or #2377 "The Crier in Emptiness." A bargain! HONOLULU #2376/\$1.45 CRIER #2377/\$1.49



No Klingon girl scouts will try to sell you cookies when you display this magnificent 22 x 34" poster on your door! One side features the Enterprise in full color the other side is a 3-D lithograph! 3-D glasses are included! POSTER #23038/\$5.00

In full color: dragon logo, sorcerer's apprentice Galan (with glitter!) and monstrous Vermithrax Pejorative!

# IRON-ONS!

Three colorful scenes: large logo, Indiana Jones on horseback, & small logo plus Indiana holding bullwhip!



#26315-\$1.50



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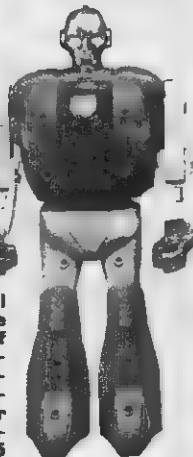
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## BIOTRON

**NEW 12" TALL  
MECHANICAL ROBOT  
YOU BUILD!**



**NEW**

**WITH THIS COMPLETE KIT  
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**BIOTRON** Super mechanical robot that can metamorphose into an incredible number of working shapes and sizes. Biotron's parts are fully interchangeable with the entire Micronaut line of toys! Biotron for tons of fun! Batteries not included. #26157/\$23.95

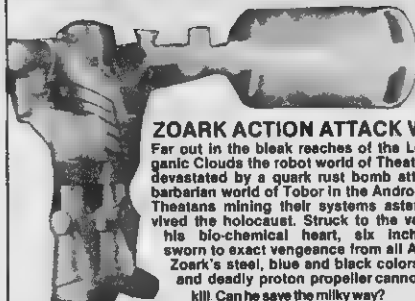
### ZODAR ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR



Zooming in from the far reaches of outer galactic space, ZODAR, alien from the planet Tobor, on the far side of the Blue Drift in the Andromeda Galaxy, unleashes his neutron energized propellers against the helpless inhabitants of the Milky Way. This six inch horned monster comes equipped with 2 windup propellers that can fly up to 40 feet. Zodar's movable, jointed arms can crush mere protoplasm! Painted in barbaric reds and yellows, Zodar.

#26092-\$2.50

### ACTION ATTACK WARRIORS



#### ZOARK ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

Far out in the bleak reaches of the Lesser Mellangenic Clouds the robot world of Theat Retrak 9 was devastated by a quark rust bomb attack from the barbarian world of Tobor in the Andromeda Galaxy. Theatans mining their systems asteroid belt survived the holocaust. Struck to the very depths of his bio-chemical heart, six inch Zoark has sworn to exact vengeance from all Andromedans. Zoark's steel, blue and black colors, jointed arm and deadly proton propeller cannon are ready to kill. Can he save the milky way?

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# FULL COLOR PORTFOLIOS!

**NEAL ADAMS, A MASTER OF CONTEMPORARY FANTASTIC ART! NOW HIS WORK CAN BE YOURS TO DISPLAY! ORDER BOTH SETS FOR A COMPLETE COLLECTION!**



## THE NEAL ADAMS PORTFOLIO SET A

Four of Neal Adams' finest illustrations are reproduced here as full-color 11x14 inch plates! Included with this set is a full-color folder to contain both sets of prints! #29046—\$7.95.



## THE NEAL ADAMS PORTFOLIO SET B

Four more of Adams' best action-filled scenes are reproduced in this second set of full-color plates! All the prints are suitable for framing. Collect all eight Neal Adams plates! #29047—\$7.95.



# COLOR POSTERS!

**LET YOUR  
IMAGINATION SOAR  
WITH THESE  
STRIKING, FULL  
COLOR FANTASY  
POSTERS!**



**GIRL WITH WHITE BEAST** by THE BROTHERS HILDEBRANDT! You've admired the fantastic work of the Brothers Hildebrandt for years...they've taken you into Tolkien's world as no artists ever have! Now is your chance to own and mount this exciting, large-size, full color, 62 by 93 inch poster by the Brothers Hildebrandt in your very own home! GIRL WITH WHITE BEAST is a strangely beautiful rendering of a lovely blond in a field of flowers menaced(?) by a lumbering creature! #29052—\$3.50



**THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE** by CARLOS NORTE! This stunning, full-color, large size 62 by 93 inch poster will leave you breathless, as the four bringers of doom smite the world from the sky! #29050—\$3.50



**SHE OF THE SWORD** by THE BROTHERS HILDEBRANDT! This large size, full color, 62 by 93 inch poster will kick your imagination into high gear! The Brothers Hildebrandt are fast gaining the reputation as the premiere artists of the fantastic in the entire world, and this startling, boldly colorful poster will show you why! A beautiful yet formidable woman stands triumphant over the grotesque beast she has slain with her bloodied blade while in the distance a fantastic landscape glitters! #29051—\$3.50

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.



# COLLECTABLES OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND



## STAR WARS & CLOSE ENCOUNTER RECORD

The Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra, conducted by Zubin Mehta, plays John Williams' scores for STAR WARS including the title Theme, Leia's Theme, The Little People, Cantina Band, Battle & The Throne Room. Also the suite from CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND. Spell binding music! Order today! #2394/\$7.98

## We Are Not Alone



JFOs—WHAT ARE THEY?  
JFOs—A GLOBAL PHENOMENON  
JFOs—ALL SHAPES & SIZES  
JFOs—PEAK MONTHS, PEAK HOURS  
JFOs—SEEN BY 15 MILLION AMERICANS

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND FACT SHEET

SHEET Giant-sized 23" x 33" fact sheet poster, featuring salient information on sightings, evidence and contact with UFOs. When are UFOs most frequently spotted? Where? What are they? What do they look like? These questions are answered on this full-color poster. Order! #29005/\$2.50

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND



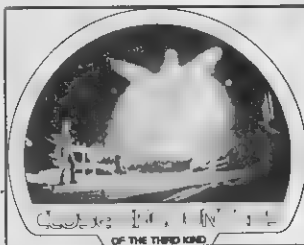
## MOTHER SHIP IRON-ON

Full-color, brilliantly lit scene of the exit of the fabulous extra-terrestrial Mother Ship. Barry in the foreground watches as the spacecraft lifts from earth-bound gravity and heads for the stars. Iron-on vibrant with reds, blues, and golds. #26054/\$1.25



## ROAD SCENE IRON-ON

Full-color iron-on of the special scene that has come to mean CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND to millions. A brilliant, deep-blue, starlit sky; a road going off into infinity; and a glowing white light that promises a galaxy of excitement and wonder. Plus the CLOSE ENCOUNTERS logo. #26067/\$1.25



## LANDING CRAFT IRON-ON

Jillian, Barry and Roy Neary first encounter the zooming, brilliantly-lit, spectacular UFO landing craft as they soar overhead in an unbelievable display of visuals and sound, in this full-color, fabulous iron-on. #26053/\$1.25



## DEVILS TOWER IRON-ON

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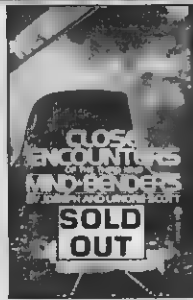
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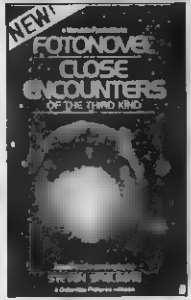
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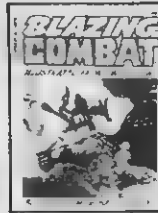
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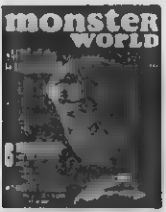
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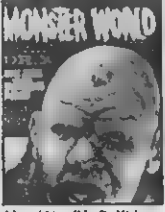
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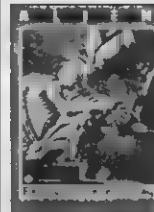
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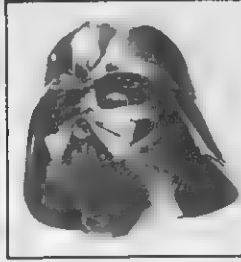
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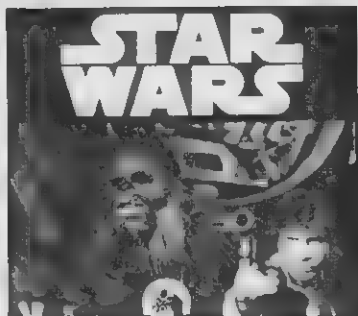


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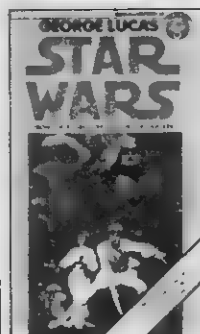
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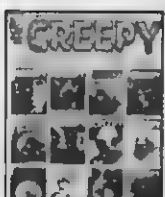
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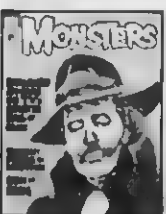
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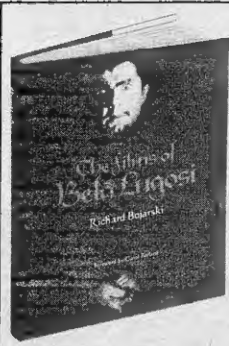
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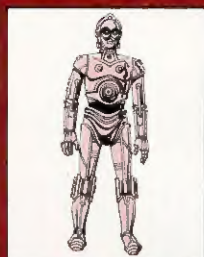


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